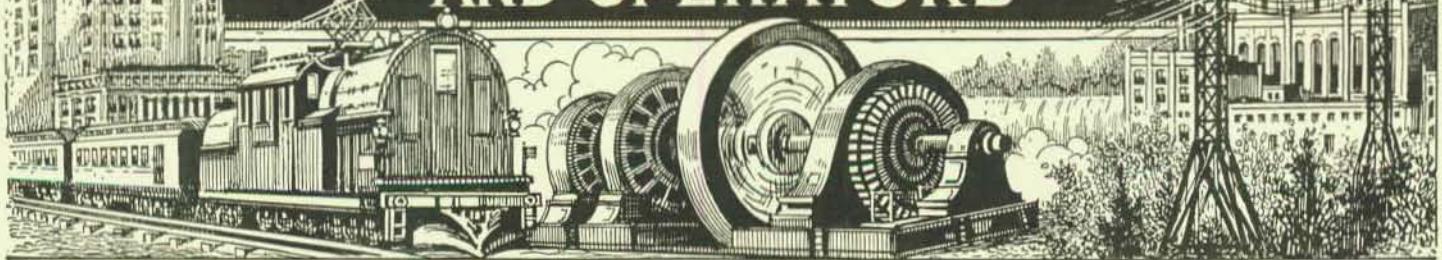


# The Journal of **ELECTRICAL WORKERS** AND OPERATORS



RECORDING • THE • ELECTRICAL • ERA

VOL. XXX

WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE, 1931

NO. 6

ARCHITECTURE TURNS TO LIGHT



# Awake or Asleep?



Old Tom drowsed over his evening paper. He thought of the factory—of his boss, Mr. Day—a good fellow, and mighty considerate! He would do anything in the world for those who worked under him. Old Tom thought of his wife, and of young Tommy there across the table from him studying his lessons.

"Yes," thought Old Tom, "life is pretty good, and I'm happy with my family and my work." And he smiled sleepily.

Then suddenly he saw his wife and his son there without him. They weren't smiling and happy as he had always known them to be. The boy had his arms around his mother, and her eyes were red from weeping. Beside them stood Mr. Day, trying to comfort her, and telling her that he would do all he could to help them. For old Tom had died, and left nothing to provide for the future of those he loved.

"Tom and I had so hoped that our boy would be able to finish high school," Tom's wife told Mr. Day. "We were eager to give him more opportunities than we had had. Oh, I know Tom and I should have saved, but there were so many things to do with his salary—and so many people

who seemed to need help, that we just never got started."

Mr. Day put his hand on her shoulder.

"Tom's salary will be paid you just the same as though he were still with us," he promised. "You keep the boy at school, and when he finishes there will be a place for him at the factory."

Old Tom woke up with a start.

"What's the matter, Dad?" asked young Tommy.

"Phew! What a dream!" exclaimed Old Tom, relieved to find himself really alive and with his family. And he told them about it.

His wife laughed.

"What a thing for you to dream, Tom, when you know how well Tommy and I are provided for with that life insurance policy you took out years ago."

"And that policy isn't all, you know," Tom reminded her, "for just last week Mr. Day took out a group life insurance policy for all the workers in the factory."

"You were awake to life insurance before you went to sleep, weren't you, Dad?" observed Tommy.

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*Magazine Chat*

Too little painting has turned to the realities of American life. French and Spanish artists have done better. Now an American painter, with a foreign name, Gordon Samstag, has won a prize (Thomas B. Clarke prize) offered by the National Academy of Design, for his realistic "Young Man Desires Position."

Turn to the frontispiece of this magazine and gaze for a moment upon Artist Samstag's work. Note the listlessness of the young man's body; note the wondering, perplexed, sombre expression; note the timid posture; note the overcoat—it, too, listless and sad, with the newspaper in its pocket, bearing "Men Wanted" ads; above all else, note the hands, the strong, competent, hands of the craftsman, so willing to work, now tragically idle in the man's lap. The hands are the centre of the portrait—the sure stroke of genius on Artist Samstag's part.

"Young Man Desires Position" is a worthy addition to that small, but growing, body of art portraying industrial America. Happy we are that the National Academy of Design has loaned us this photograph.

Renewing the question "Does this magazine value contributions from its union readers?" Here is the answer. Five leading articles by members this month, all casting shrewd, entertaining and important rays of light upon union problems. Other special contributions on the "fun page" and in the correspondence. Here is real accomplishment.

We are conscious of a steady, ever-widening flow of good material to our desk. Few contributions ever reach the waste basket. Most of our readers are capable of simple, clear expression, when they feel deeply, or see a social wrong.



Courtesy National Academy of Design

"YOUNG MAN DESIRES POSITION"

By Gordon Samstag. Awarded Thomas B. Clarke Prize



# THE JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS & OPERATORS

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Vol. XXX

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## World Architecture Turns to Light

**B**RINGING the outdoors into the factory by means of glass walls is one of the notable trends in industrial architecture. This trend is apparent in countries as far apart as the United States and Japan, and Russia and Holland. These glass houses become figures of imposing beauty by night, illuminated as they are with the most advanced electrical systems.

Americans and the world will have a chance to see advances in architecture and in lighting in the coming World's Fair in Chicago in 1933. This is described as an International Exhibition, and is expected to record advances in electrical decoration as outstanding as did the old Columbia Exposition in 1893. Anticipation of what the World's Fair holds in store in the way of a revelation in architectural trends has recently been made in America by C. H. van der Leeuw, a young business man from Holland who has just completed a factory in Rotterdam. As president of the International Industrial Relations Association, he is touring America and giving illustrated lectures in principal cities describing world architectural trends. Mr. van der Leeuw, therefore, is an expert, not only in the field of art, but in the field of industrial relations. He draws remarkable parallels between the new trends in factory architecture and tendencies in industrial relationships. Factories are being built to give workers a stronger sense of security within the industry, of pride in their surroundings, sunshine, air, recreation, and good food. Mr. van der Leeuw has collected slides from all over the world showing factories in Russia, Germany, Japan, Italy, France and the United States, all identical in style, all showing the modern tendencies. This new type of architecture is said to be international in character inasmuch as it is rationalistic. A building is supposed to look like the function it performs. A factory is to look like a factory, not a medieval castle. The very goods that the factory makes plays a part in determining the style of the building.

### Fits in With Industrial Spirit

The new architecture fits in with the wave of rationalization that is going forward in the industrial world today. Mr. van der Leeuw claims inspiration for his own part in this architectural development came from America, though America has been outstripped by other countries in making innova-

**Trends in building construction seem to be international in character. Glass towers, glass-enclosed stairways, elaborate systems of artificial light for utility and decorative purposes mark impending changes.**

tions. He pays tribute to Frank Lloyd Wright as an innovator in architecture. Wright in 1930 proposed for New York houses built like trees—a glass, steel and concrete tower which embodies the newer principles in this international architecture. Though Wright has been omitted from the Board of Architects chosen by the 1933 World's Fair Committee of Chicago, his influence is expected to be there. Light is the keynote of the World's Fair and the keynote of this international architecture.

One of the architects cooperating with the World's Fair Board has made this description of the promised lighting effects at the World's Fair:

By C. W. FARRIER, A. I. A.

We now have in addition to the incandescent bulb several promising sources which are in the course of development. These are the gaseous and vacuum tubes, and the various vapor bulbs.

We now have a palette of glassware that is practically unlimited and optical devices of almost any kind can be turned out cheaply when sufficient quantity is demanded.

Experiments are now under way which promise that invisible rays, emanating from screened vapor bulbs, can be utilized to activate luminescent substances painted on the walls and so produce light in a room which has no visible source of illumination. These luminescent paints can be made to produce a large amount of light for a short period or a small amount of light for a long period after the activating source is shut off. The intensity and period of the luminosity depends on the wavelength of the activating source.

### Mural Painting Coming

These luminescent paints can be used with any source of illumination and will increase the efficiency of that source in the room a considerable percentage by returning to the room light which is

ordinarily absorbed by the walls in the form of heat.

A fairly complete palette of these paints has been developed. Experimental paints have been made with them which seem to promise that mural painting with them is a possibility.

Projection apparatus and optical devices are now available which make it possible to decorate entire rooms with no other media than light.

The popularity of mural painting has slacked off at present principally because it is static and expensive. Murals in light are comparatively inexpensive and can be made as mobile as taste demands. Such murals can be easily changed to prevent obsolescence.

By using optical devices for obtaining decorative effects instead of a simple projected transparencies, third dimensional effects can be obtained.

A medium which offers such possibilities is of immense importance to architecture and cannot be neglected.

Chicago is to have an opportunity in the next three years to show to the world what lighting as a decorative medium can do for architecture. The building of a world's fair is always an impetus to the imagination and to the ingenuity of those working on it. The buildings are of temporary nature and therefore comparatively inexpensive. One does not have to live with them for a long period of time so they can be spectacular. They must be spectacular because the visitors to the fair are there only for a few days and the effects must be a crash in order to register.

The daytime effect of the coming exposition will probably be one of an infinite variety of color.

It is highly probable that many of the buildings will be artificially illuminated by day and by night on the inside. The advantage of this is that no matter what time of day or night the exhibits are seen they will always present their best appearance. It also makes possible the direction of the attention of the passerby upon the objects displayed. It also makes possible the use of light as a decorative medium at all times. Such buildings will have no windows.

The lighting of the exterior of the buildings can be made to constantly change in color and pattern and by the use of modern machines for lighting control can be all interrelated into a harmonious composition.

Mr. van der Leeuw Outlines the Relation of Architecture to Industrial Democracy.

By C. H. van der Leeuw

Modern architecture is not a particular style, but an attitude of mind. It is akin to the scientific management movement in industry in seeking to eliminate waste and to conserve human energy while supplying more adequately the goods and services needed for society. It reconciles in design the human rights of those who live or work in a building, its technical and practical uses and the aesthetic aspirations of the artist. Similarity in style in the work of architects in the different countries, which gives to modern architecture its international character, arises out of similarity of conditions in modern life and industry.

The place of the United States in this movement is of great importance. With its enormous building activity, its openmindedness and its preference for simplicity of form, as shown in the simple beauty of many of its machines and in the utilities of daily life, the United States is the country where the international style has possibilities of which we cannot dream in Europe. America may carry this style to a degree of perfection, technical and otherwise, of enormous importance for the whole world. Moreover, the standardized materials and machinery needed for building in other countries are likely to be supplied in considerable part by the United States, and thus again American industry can influence international architecture. It will, however, be necessary that the modern movement should be understood here not merely by a few but by many architects and engineers and their clients, who must break with the old traditional ways of working and approaching the question of building construction in the same unprejudiced, logical spirit in which this country has handled its technical problems.

#### Gingerbread Must Go

The development of international architecture has been going on in Europe for a period of time ranging for the various countries from five to 20 years. After a stage when architecture was considered a superfluous luxury there came a time when a few leaders in architecture in the various nations sought to introduce the concept of beauty which had been temporarily neglected in both industrial and home building. These innovators often combined this with more rational design for greater efficiency in the use of the structure. Sometimes, however, they sacrificed practical necessities to "art" in the interior as well as in the exterior, and in some instances there was a tendency to what might be called a false monumentality. This was the pre-modern period.

This latter misconception brought about in later days a tendency on the part of some architects to use unusual and fantastic forms, which we still find

today in some "modernistic" examples. Parallel with the pre-modern movement a few individual architects stressed the necessity of the most complete rationalism in the design and the utmost simplicity in the outer and inner forms. They did away entirely with any "architecture" put on the facade after designing a building, and held that the facade ought to be the true expression, the logical outcome, of the design. This is sometimes called functional building. An interesting side to this development is that small groups of architects are working in almost every country in the world along exactly the same lines—a reason why this type of architecture is called the "international style" (in Germany sometimes the *Neue Sachlichkeit*, a rather terrible word). It is a pity we have to use words which are things made by man to hide real meanings, but we have to indicate the idea in some verbal form. There is no need to be hurt by this designation nor to make a creed out of it.

#### Labor Has Effect on Style

The "international modern" movement starts from the human beings who have to live or work in the building, whether it be a dwelling house or a

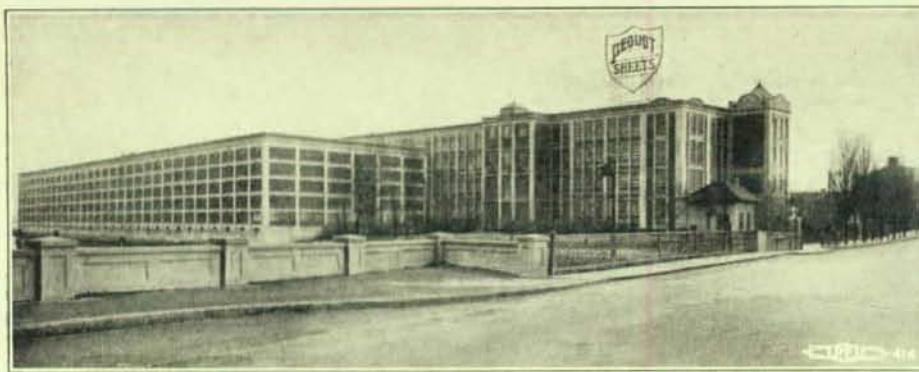
factory or an office building. The needs (not to say rights) of the human being are to be paramount. As a second point the technical demands are fully considered. Far from the battle going on between designer or technical manager and architect in olden days, the modern architect takes their demands as part and parcel of his job.

The third point—really the outcome of the two former—is for the architect to bring all this into a balanced and harmonious form. For many people the outcome may be rather too simple, too severe; but if the architect understands his job, after a while his work begins to fascinate just because of its simplicity and its rejection of false monumentality.

Many factors have been coinciding to bring about the new movement: first of all, a striving after simplicity, a reaction against the very often futile adornments placed on facades, on walls, on furniture, etc., and the conviction that the outside of a building should not be a kind of artistic mask, placed there to please the eye, but that it should express whatever the inside of the building needs. If a window should be in a certain place, it should not be camouflaged; windows should not be added



THE VAN NELLE FACTORY IN ROTTERDAM, HOLLAND, REVEALING THE STARK LINES OF UTILITY, WHICH CREATE NEW LINES OF BEAUTY.



PEQUOT MILLS, SALEM, USED BY MR. VAN DER LEEUW AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE "TREND" IN INDUSTRIAL ARCHITECTURE. THIS IS AN "ENGINEERING" JOB, BUT IN ITS SIMPLICITY IT HAS BEAUTY.

just for the sake of ornament. Motifs of past centuries should not be placed out of sheer tradition. The inside and outside of a building should form a true unity and the form of the outside the consequence of whatever is inside. As early as the beginning of the century, this thought was expressed by Adolf Loos and Walter Gropius, to name some of the very first. Together with the above factors came an influx of new materials, which gave greater and other possibilities. Parallel with this came the tendency to use more rational methods in the production process. All these different factors led away from "façade building" to "functional building." Beauty, however, is not sacrificed to function, but arises out of perfection and the efficient simplicity of line, color and proportion. The last and perhaps the most important influence in modern architecture is the slowly developing concept of better human relations in industry and community life, and the recognition that all the members of the community have a right to live and work in a beautiful environment.

### Raze Slums

By FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT,  
Governor of New York

It is generally agreed that new construction furnishes one of the most practical and immediate ways to relieve the widespread problem of unemployment. No type of construction activity can do more to accomplish this end than slum clearance and the rebuilding or modernizing of obsolete tenement districts.

More than a year ago it was my pleasure to call to the attention of the public through one of the meetings of the American Construction Council the great economic and social benefits to be secured from a wisely conducted program on quasi-public works and especially on slum clearance and the rebuilding of the obsolete tenement districts throughout the congested areas of the country's cities and towns. At that time the advisability of every community of size laying down a careful and specific plan for this purpose was emphasized. Recent survey has shown substantial progress along these lines. That work in close articulation with suburban housing can go forward for years to come

and give much-needed and continuous employment to both labor and capital.

Then, there is the field of home modernizing and home repairs on which the Council inaugurated a nation-wide campaign a number of years ago looking toward the time when new construction might ebb. With expenditures on such reconditioning of homes easily and directly geared into the current ability of the owner to pay, this type of building operations offers a safe and beneficial field today. The same principle holds true for the modernization of schools and hospitals and other public institutions as well as for factories and commercial buildings where funds can be made available for such purposes.

These important and practical construction outlets are illustrative of what can be done under wise leadership with the earnest and intelligent co-operation of all those engaged in the industry. There is where the real task lies. Much helpful construction, of course, has been secured through the prosecution of public works of one kind or another, as for example the great bridges and tunnels and public buildings here in the state of New York and similar activities elsewhere—municipal, county, state and federal.

This nation of ours will rebuild itself, with all that the term—rebuilding America—implies. This rebuilding, however, can come about only with the support of private initiative wisely applied to the common problems of business enterprise conducted in the public interest. The great industry of construction has a major and natural function to perform in any program for the rebuilding of our broken economic machinery today, and this responsibility properly discharged to the public will not only bring material benefit to the industry itself but go far towards hastening the end of our present financial depression.

(Franklin D. Roosevelt is Honorary President of the American Construction Council)

"We maintain the soundness of the principle that a man is entitled only to what he has in some real sense earned. Wealth accruing to the holders through monopoly values or special privileges, or through large opportunities for costless saving, is not earned. \* \* \* — *General Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, 1924.*

### SAYS WAR-TIME INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM WOULD END HARD TIMES

One cure for business depression, Dr. Walter Renton Ingalls, New York City mining engineer and economist, implied in a recent address on "The Wealth of Nations," before the Franklin Institute, in Philadelphia, would be to get ready for a war without actually having it. During 1930 there existed in America, Great Britain and Germany, Dr. Ingalls stated, "the anomalous condition of extensive unemployment and much work to be done." There were plenty of raw materials and plenty of credit with which to use these and to do the needed work. Such a condition would be corrected immediately, Dr. Ingalls continued, by the industrial mobilization called for by war or by preparation for war. Equally effective mobilization of industry ought to be possible for peace and the promotion of wealth, but there is necessary for peace, just as there is for war, the leadership of authority.

"The civilized world suffers," Dr. Ingalls stated, "from an impairment of the principle of authority, meaning the leadership of intelligence." Soviet Russia, in order to live, has restored the principle of authority in the most despotic way. Thus it has no unemployment of labor, whatever other disadvantages may exist.

"In America, Great Britain and Germany," Dr. Ingalls continued, "classes quarrel over the division of wealth and income and sulk in idleness." Meanwhile there is less income to divide. The national income of the United States in 1929, Dr. Ingalls estimates, was about \$83,000,000,000. In 1930 it fell to not over \$75,000,000,000. Restoration of peace-time leadership like that sought and accepted in war will be necessary before it can increase again.

### RADIO MAKES WORMS SPIN MORE SILK

Even silkworms work better to radio. Waves to make such worms spin more silk have been found successful by two Italian biologists, Signors G. Mezzadri and E. Varetton. The waves were not those used in broadcasting but the so-called ultra-short waves between two and three meters long, like the waves used recently by scientists of the General Electric Company to create fever in the bodies of men and animals. Taking a batch of silkworms fifteen days after hatching from the egg, the Italian experimenters exposed these worms for 30 minutes each day to the radiation from a powerful generator of these ultra-short waves. Exactly similar worms hatched at the same time and fed with the same food were kept as a standard for comparison. The radiated worms grew faster, both in length and weight, it was found, than did the worms which had no radio. Also, the radio worms began to spin their silken cocoons sooner and produced an appreciably higher average of silk. Every feature of the experiment indicates, the two biologists reported recently to the Academy of Sciences in Rome, that the radio treatment quickened the life cycle of the worms so that more silk could be produced in less time and on smaller quantities of the mulberry leaves which silkworms use for food. Probably the radio waves act chiefly by heating the worms just as similar waves cause slight fever in other animals. Whether the experiment will lead to practical trials of short-wave radio to speed up silkworm farming is doubtful because of the cost.

## COMMENT

By

PRESIDENT BROACH

DESPITE illness, death, fire, flood—the show must go on. That's what theatrical people say. We think of it as we see reports from our International men. What a tough job they have now! Some are buckling under the strain. But their spirit is: This organization must go on.

Many people believe labor officials should be modern Aladdins with the magic lamp. Naturally they are always disappointed.

We have too many fires—and too few firemen. We can't make progress running from one fire to another—pausing long enough to look it over, then going on our way. We must concentrate on the most dangerous blaze and put it out before going to the next.

G. X. Barker—a successful young member of our International staff, from Birmingham, Ala.—succeeds our late Vice President Wilson. When appointed Barker said:

**"Don't forget you are to let me know if I do not show proper leadership. I believe in frankness, and most of all the things I dislike, is to see some one standing in the way of progress—but too dumb to move. If I cannot get results, I do not want to keep the other fellow from getting them."**

A member writes, "If I don't get more steady work, I'll go scabbing". He was told:

**"You don't want to be a 'scab.' It is easy to become one—but harder to overcome the reputation. Those who are LOYAL to a union never think of it. Others do. He who deserts or runs from the group is soon defeated. This**

**is the law of the jungle. You are now working some. Others are receiving nothing. Your selfishness, narrowness, will prove your undoing unless you change your thought."**

In these times—when men are hungry and their families destitute—the victims are rarely capable of sound, unbiased judgment. This is only natural. But you can't tell them this without offense.

Many letters sent here carry well-known earmarks of deception. Many do not expect us to get the other side of the story. And they do not realize that experience permits us to readily see exaggerations and deception.

Some letter writers blow hot and cold on the same page. They contradict themselves and we don't know which claim they expect us to believe. A dog wags his tail when he is happy. He barks when excited or angry. But when he does both at once, you don't know which end to believe.

Many letters ask we find lost wives—and wayward husbands—that we have certain persons deported, sent to jail or to an asylum. Some ask that we save others from the same fate—and that local, state and federal appointments be secured. All kinds of requests arrive.

One fellow became quite angry when we refused to drop everything and find his wife. He wanted a big loan and a national broadcast made. A faker from Brooklyn said he wrote as "tears and blood" streamed from his eyes. He hadn't worked for 11 months. His wife had only a few hours

to live. We investigated. Both were away attending a party. His wife is still alive. He still had a job—but felt he "might" lose it, so he wrote for cash—and sympathy.

In some letters we clearly see the tricky orator—the office-seeking politician—the holier-than-thou demagogue—and the "abused" victim who pitied himself. We also see the rabble-rousing, flag-waving leader of those obstructing humans who insist upon their rights to the exclusion of all others. Their desire to "gab and gas" seems to exceed all else.

When most men fail—because they do not honestly consider all the facts—they start blaming everything and everybody but themselves. They start a name-throwing contest. This is mean and small—even babyish. Employers exist. Prejudices, fears, bunk, stubbornness, economic forces—all exist. All are part of the picture. They must be honestly weighed and understood. When facts are against you, and hazards are too great—and you fail—don't be a bum sport. Don't start calling names like a youngster with a bloody nose.

It is most unfair to injure a man's character or reputation because of what you think—instead of what you know. It shows a desire to condemn and persecute.

Practical labor officials have got beyond crying for anybody's blood. They know the brutal job of administering an executive office. They know the job of trying to change an old productive system to a new. They have been there—and they are willing to let the Peter Pans cry, "We want cake at once". Perhaps sometime most men will learn.

The employers in one town wanted the union to have a business representative. They offered

to pay half his salary. The union said, "We can't afford it"—and asked this office to pay the other half. It was told:

"Our funds will not permit granting such requests. Any way, we have learned that a union never amounts to anything until put on a self-supporting basis. When it is helped financially, it usually continues to expect help. This often creates dependence—instead of independence.

"Frankly, if you expect better conditions, you must pay the price. Others have done it—and you shouldn't be any exception. Other unions—with less members—have assessed those working to pay the full salary of a representative. If you are not willing to do this, you cannot expect improvements—and you shouldn't expect others to help you.

"Remember: 'The Lord helps those who help themselves'. Please don't feel offended. It's better to face facts."

Even discouragement has its value. It often brings a more thorough analysis and study of our actions. Success often makes men overconfident. Success also has its dangers. We have said: "While nothing succeeds like success, nothing is more dangerous than success."

Here is progress:

Eleven years ago, only one floor was occupied by the International Headquarters in a small building in Springfield, Ill.

We had no Legislative Representatives, no Research Department—no Technical Education Director—no Director of Public Relations—no technicians and experts—and few well trained, experienced men.

Today our own modern, 8-story building—in Washington—barely meets our needs, with our departments and trained, experienced heads.

We have been so busy in 11 years we little realized the actual progress we were making.

*H. H. Brown*

## OUR WEAKNESS

A serious, honest-minded man writes:

**"Religious and fraternal associations are wrecking organizations—many times discrediting excellent men."**

**"Politics are miserable. Absolutely unreliable men are in official capacities, and leeches on the backs of their fellows."**

**"There is a lack of interest of rank and file in these conditions. Older men are doing all the active work. With very few exceptions, young men have no interest whatever."**

**"It is the system, and it affects nearly all unions in all crafts."**

Mental weaknesses demand organized effort. Labor unionism was born, has thrived and must continue, in the midst of such necessity. The law of life compels us to deal with those forces which tend to harm or destroy us.

Wherever we go—whatever walk of life we choose—we always meet the same disappointing weaknesses complained of by this serious, honest-minded fellow. He also wrote:

**"I cannot correct these things, have no practical solution, and in the final analysis, I may be mistaken in lots of them—because nearly everyone else goes along apparently contented."**

Yes, religious prejudice is still with us. Some feel you are against their religion—and you cannot be right or fair—unless you belong to their particular church or lodge. They should have the same treatment provided for other forms of insanity—institutional care.

No, he "cannot correct these things". They seem beyond correction by any human. The only solution we know is organization which provides discipline—and education. The man is discouraged by the weaknesses he describes. But we must realize—in the final analysis—they are causes of unhappiness for every one—especially serious, honest, and mentally well-balanced people.

We have no interest in what a man belongs to or what he believes in—so long as this does not interfere with the orderly conduct and progress of this organization. I belong to nothing but the Electrical Workers. I recently wrote:

**"I have every regard for real fraternalism and real religion. But I hold both the giver and receiver of preferences in a labor organization—as a result of fraternal or religious connections—to be worse than a sneak thief."**

The evils described are not due to "the System". They result from weakness of the human mind—not the system. Every religious order—every business institution, every form of government, family or association of men—is cursed with harmful influences, due to man's imperfections.

We are convinced it was the disappointment, unhappiness—grief and worry—over these human weaknesses, also overwork, that caused three of our International men to kill themselves in the last few years. Vice President Wilson was the last.

Some men can hide from others, their disgust, unhappiness and disappointment—and struggle wearily on. Others cannot. They think they are ignoring the hypocrisy of man—his weaknesses—but they are only blinding themselves in sorrow.

*H.H. Brack*

# Credit Unit Looms; Bankers Heed Criticism

PANICS are the same in their devastating results. The complex causes which produce them differ widely. In the panic of 1921, the rapid recovery of the building industry brought comparatively quick redress in the volume of trade. In 1931, 19 months after the Wall Street crash, the basic building industry limps along disconsolately. Its failure to take hold—even in those cities where houses are needed—is assigned to bad credit resources. The need of reform has been apparent to construction men for a decade. High interest rates, red tape, exorbitant service charges, usurious second mortgage charges, refinancing charges—these devices of bankers to outwit the law—have about made home-owning prohibitive.

The evil goes deeper. The rapid organization of banks into huge units, and the entrance of these banks into the financing of mergers, have put bankers into strategic places and made them capable of controlling industrial policies. Their control generally has been restricted and unenlightened, if not narrow and bigoted. The fight for a banking system which emancipates and not throttles industry, is the next step in socialization in these United States. The breath of life for a capitalistic system is credit.

Unionists are interested in this question because they are concerned first as workers in a basic industry upon whose welfare depends their livelihood, and second, as prospective home-owners. That is why this JOURNAL has persistently pointed out the need of revamping the present credit system.

Business Week, liberal business news-magazine, reports exclusively (May 16, 1931) the proposals now being made to take care of present maladjustments:

(1) A central mortgage bank to act as clearing house for real estate securities.

(2) A credit corporation controlled by manufacturers of building materials to facilitate building operations.

(3) A credit corporation controlled by manufacturers for financing home operations.

The first plan is described in detail:

"Commercial banks, savings banks, building and loan societies have in their vaults large blocks of mortgages, frozen solid. If there were a central mortgage bank to which these holdings could be taken for rediscounit, capital could again be set in motion. For years, the U. S. Building and Loan League has been asking Congress to authorize the character of a national rediscounit bank to which members societies would furnish capital. Nobody in particular opposed the measure, but it has always curled up and died—one of the host of bills that just fail to attain consideration.

"The National Association of Real Estate Boards is discussing a national rediscounit bank for mortgages. Plans for some such institution are 'under

**Banking touched with public service, and a chance to stimulate the construction industry anew seen in recent moves of business men to found central mortgage system.**

way.' Both Secretary of Commerce Lamont and President Hoover are said to favor it. Tentative proposals have been submitted for Secretary Lamont's scrutiny. The subject will be thoroughly gone over at the association's convention in Baltimore this month.

"It is suggested that the government authorize a central mortgage bank with regional branches, the central bank to be supervisory. Building and loan associations, banks, and mortgage companies would be members of the regional banks, would subscribe their capital, would follow their rules and appraisals. Regional banks would purchase from members only first mortgages on urban residential property, long term and amortized, limited to 55 per cent or 60 per cent of valuation. The bank would then sell bonds secured by the mortgages and by its resources. The government would not furnish any capital or guarantee the bonds. Regional banks would be non-profit, service institutions. The Building and Loan League agrees in

principle with the above, but differs on certain details."

Warmed by criticism, the American Bankers Association has released the bankers' own plan of meeting the evil credit situation.

(1) Liquidation or consolidation of banks where changed local economic conditions render this desirable;

(2) Wider affiliation among state banks with the Federal Reserve System;

(3) Development of limited branch banking where economic conditions and legal authority make this expedient;

(4) A more general practice, especially lacking among country banks, to analyze the cost of carrying accounts and other operating details and the establishment of proper service charges to make all classes of functions profitable;

(5) A more general application of the theory and practice of secondary reserves;

(6) Avoidance of banks of undue borrowing merely to increase their own profits by relending at higher rates, or to overexpand credit to local business in order to increase their own business;

(7) Cooperation among bankers in local communities through city, county or regional clearing houses so as to promote mutually beneficial conditions and practices;

(8) The insistence upon higher educational effort and qualifications among employees, especially those to be trusted with executive duties.



Courtesy New School of Social Research

STEEL-MAKING  
Mural by Thomas Hart Benton

# Obsolete Living Costs Excuse For Wage Cuts

FROM December, 1929, to December, 1930, living costs fell in the United States—measured by the U. S. Department of Labor standards—6.2 per cent. This fact alone has been the only factual evidence advanced for the campaign of wage cuts prosecuted by bankers, and, often under compulsion, by certain employers. Upon this slender evidence revision of wages has been begun, and in most instances, the cuts have been much larger in proportion—the minimum in excess of 10 per cent. The enlightened opinion of the business world has condemned the campaign.

The Business Week (May 6, 1931) declares:

**"The cost of living means nothing any more, and it has never had any necessary relation to wages. Real wages are determined only by the abundance of capital and the efficiency of management. The purchasing power of employed workers always increases and should increase during depression. This is one of the factors of recovery because it helps to offset the lost purchasing power of the unemployed."**

The remoteness of cost of living figures, compiled by the U. S. Department of Labor, from the necessary family budget of the 1931 American family, is marked. The cost of living figures compiled by the Federal government contain the following items:

- Food
- Clothing
- Rent
- Fuel and Light
- House furnishings
- Miscellaneous

The only possible item in the list, which might be elastic enough to stretch far enough to include the 1931 standard of living is "miscellaneous". Yet "miscellaneous" covers the following items only: street car fare, motion pictures, insurance, newspapers, church and organization expenses, doctor's fees, medicine, hospital care, dental charges, spectacles, laundry, cleaning supplies, barber service, toilet articles and preparations, telephone rates, and tobacco prices. This item fails to include a modern list of 20 or more articles, which have come to be looked upon as essential to American comfort.

Behind the cost of living figures lies a budget for a figurative family of five. This budget was based upon cost of living figures of 1918—but is dated 1920. It is called "Minimum Quantity Budget Necessary to Maintain a Family in Health and Decency." This phrase

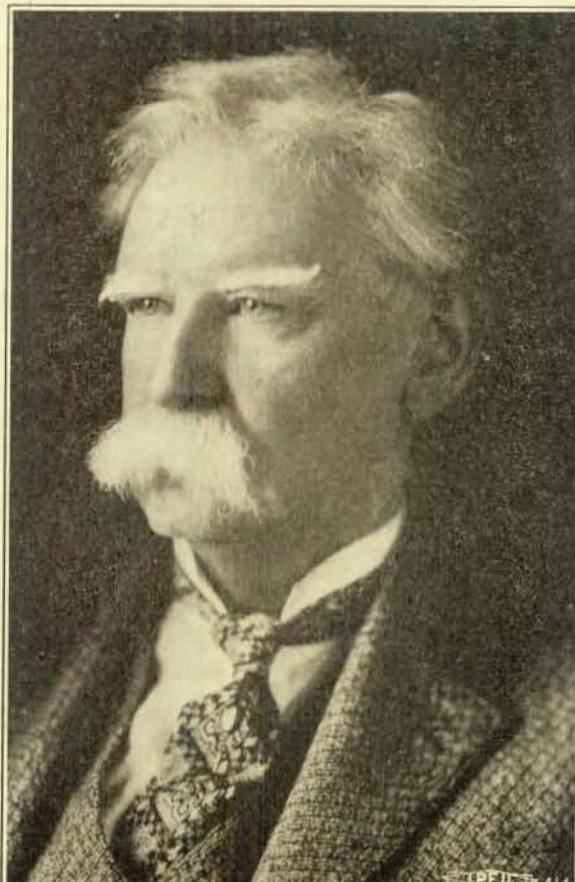
**Standards now being used by employers in cutting wages were set up more than a decade ago, when many present day necessities were counted luxuries, or were undreamed of. Procedure casts doubt on validity of claims that wages should follow slowly descending living costs. Cotton stocking budget revealed.**

and the standards set up are explained:

#### Budget Level Used in This Study

"Finally, after long consideration, it was decided to use as a working basis a budget level which can be best expressed perhaps by the phrase a standard of health and decency. This phrase is not entirely precise in meaning. No phrase of the kind can very well be wholly satisfactory. The budget herewith suggested is intended to give to the average family consisting of husband, wife and three children below the age of 14 years—

"1. A sufficiency of nourishing food



ETHELBERT STEWART  
Dean of Research Workers, Interested in Labor Problems.

for the maintenance of health particularly the children's health.

"2. Housing in low-rent neighborhoods and within the smallest possible number of rooms consistent with decency, but with sufficient light, heat, and toilet facilities for the maintenance of health and decency;

"3. The upkeep of household equipment, such as kitchen utensils, bedding, and linen, necessary for health, but with no provision for the purchase of additional furniture.

"4. Clothing sufficient for warmth, of a sufficiently good quality to be economical, but with no further regard for appearance and style than is necessary to permit the family members to appear in public and within their rather narrow social circle without slovenliness or loss of self-respect.

"5. A surplus over the above expenditures which would permit of only a minimum outlay for such necessary demands as—

- a. Street car fares to and from work and necessary rides to stores and markets;
- b. The keeping up of a modest amount of insurance;
- c. Medical and dental care;
- d. Contributions to churches and labor or beneficial organizations;
- e. Simple amusements, such as the moving pictures once in a while, occasional street car rides for pleasure, some Christmas gifts for the children, etc.;
- f. Daily newspaper."

This, then, represents minimum standards. There may be serious omissions, omissions which include those items generally thought of when the American standard of living is mentioned.

#### Omissions

- No radio
- No electric refrigerator
- No weekly movies
- No automobile
- No electric fan
- No silk stockings
- No silk dresses
- No books or magazines
- No savings
- No vacations
- No preventative medicine
- No bathrooms
- No electric washing machines
- No electric irons
- Few fruits and dairy products
- No household replacements
- No home ownership

So out of date are cost of living standards that Ethelbert Stewart, U. S. Commissioner of Labor Statistics, declared that the old standards should be abandoned as early as 1926. They were not aban-

doned because money was not forthcoming to make a new survey.

It is these figures which took a tumble of six per cent in 1930. It is these American standards, which wage-cutters wish to undermine in 1931. It is plain that what should happen would be a persistent, definite, national drive for ever increasing wages so that the omissions in the 1918 budget could be remedied.

### Radio Outgrows Luxury Stage

#### A Factor in Reform of Wage Standards

The manner in which radio "has weathered the current economic depression" amply demonstrates that this industry has outgrown the novelty and luxury stages, and now is accepted as a public necessity, W. D. Terrell, Director of Radio, Department of Commerce, declared in an oral statement May 18.

"It no longer can be said that radio broadcasting is a novelty that soon will wear off, or that it is a luxury to be afforded only by the wealthy," declared Mr. Terrell. "Broadcasting stations are constantly improving the caliber of programs offered to the public, and daily win over greater audiences.

"While radio receiving set sales have fallen off, radio manufacturers, I am informed, have not suffered as greatly as those in other lines of endeavor. To my mind, this shows clearly that radio is accepted as an integral part of the present-day living standard in this country, for if radio were a luxury or a novelty, people would not invest in receiving apparatus to the extent that they do.

"The radio set, like the automobile, now is looked upon as indispensable in the average American family. Both are used for pleasure, he said, but both likewise have become necessary from the practical standpoint.

"National advertisers seem to agree that by using the radio in promoting good will for their products they can reach the 'buying power' of the nation," continued the official. "That is because there are between 10,000,000 and 15,000,000 receiving sets installed in American homes." The following additional information was made available by Mr. Terrell, based on reports from the industry:

The radio broadcasting industry itself has been showing material progress, despite the slackened business conditions in almost every other line. A distinct group of broadcasting stations, which heretofore were in red ink, now are showing profits. The two nation-wide radio networks showed substantial increases in commercial time sold in 1930, as compared with 1929, this figure being in the neighborhood of a 45 per cent increase. For the first quarter of the current year another material increase over the average for 1930 was reported by the networks.

That independent stations are confident as to the future of radio is evidenced in the fact that they are spending more money in improving transmitting apparatus and studios, to afford improved service for the public. From

## OMISSIONS

Living costs (fallen only 6 per cent) never included the following among their standards:

- NO RADIO
- NO ELECTRIC REFRIGERATOR
- NO WEEKLY MOVIES
- NO AUTOMOBILE
- NO ELECTRIC FAN
- NO SILK STOCKINGS
- NO SILK DRESSES
- NO BOOKS OR MAGAZINE
- NO SAVINGS
- NO PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE
- NO BATHROOMS
- NO ELECTRIC WASHING MACHINES
- NO ELECTRIC IRONS
- NO HOUSEHOLD REPLACEMENTS
- NO HOME OWNERSHIP
- FEW FRUITS AND DAIRY PRODUCTS

the technical side, additional stations are installing precise frequency control apparatus, to safeguard against frequency deviation, which causes interference for the listener. Monitoring observations of the Radio Division, Department of Commerce, made regularly, show that the number of stations keeping within a few cycles of their prescribed wave lengths steadily is becoming larger, with the result that inter-channel interference is being minimized.

#### Lower Prices For Sets

The receiving-set industry, while it suffered from the economic depression, received its greatest jolt from overproduction and price cutting, toward the fog end of 1929, and subnormal conditions continued through 1930. The trend, however, was toward lower prices for receiving sets, brought about largely by the lower costs for labor and for materials.

Industrial figures are not yet available for the first quarter of the year as to general production and sales, but exports of sets from the United States for the first three months of the year were more than \$1,000,000 ahead of the same period last year.

The compact or midget set has become an important factor in radio sales. In 1930, it was estimated that 1,130,400 midget sets were sold, making up about 45 per cent of the volume that year. These small sets, selling at prices substantially lower than the highboy or console models, probably will make up 75 per cent of the 1931 volume.

Latest innovations in receiving sets

and accessories will be introduced to dealers and jobbers at the Radio Trade Show to be held in Chicago next month. Television receivers for home use, sets equipped with the five-element Pentode tube, and the new variable Mu tube, as well as Stenode Radiostat receivers, heralded as a new departure in radio, are among the new lines expected to be exhibited for the first time.—U. S. Daily.

## The Battle of Wage Cuts

*President Hoover:*

"Any retreat from our American philosophy of constantly increasing standards of living becomes a retreat into perpetual unemployment and the acceptance of a cesspool of poverty for some large part of our people."

*Secretary of Labor Doak:*

"The administration has done everything possible to preserve the existing levels of wages and resist reduction, and as a general rule no reduction has been made by the major industries.

"The worker is entitled to more than what is necessary to provide a bare existence with food, clothing and shelter. If the worker had been getting a proper share of the returns of production then there might be something to the proposals to reduce his pay, but he has not been getting the proper share."

*Senator James Couzens, of Michigan:*

"We are so sick economically that it is hard to find any general panacea. But the greatest step we can take toward re-

(Continued on page 325)

# Mathematics As a Tool of Trade

By MAURICE MORIARTY, Charlestown High School, Boston

*This article has grown out of certain inquiries made by apprentices.*

YOUNG apprentices in training in many of the classes now organized by progressive locals do not place the value which should be placed upon the subject of mathematics. One apprentice raises the question of the relationship, if any, of mathematics to the requirements of the electrical trade. This same apprentice thinks that higher mathematics should be remanded primarily to the training of electrical engineers. The International Office desires to set forth certain advantages and disadvantages of this question and then formulate a constructive and suggestive answer in form of program, based upon the best experience to date.

In answer to the apprentice's first question, "Is algebra, or higher mathematics, absolutely necessary to an apprentice in the electrical trade?" The answer is yes and no. Yes, if the higher mathematics is instructed from the "tool of the trade standpoint" and no if it is nothing more than general high school mathematics, taking up valuable time in a supposedly trade course.

Teaching trade mathematics from the tool of the trade standpoint is best done by a mechanic taken from the trade who has a knowledge of mathematics and its practical trade applications. Well-trained academic mathematical instructors have developed into capable trade mathematical instructors by taking practical courses to acquire a trade viewpoint. In a number of trade courses throughout the country, general high school, or general elementary school mathematical teachers, have attempted to teach something called trade mathematics with no concrete educational result to the student and a great waste of time. This lack of success can be credited to the would-be trade mathematical instructor's ignorance of trade requirements. Where a mechanical instructor is teaching apprentices, the class interest is alive at all times, because the different phases of mathematics are taught by being applied to practical electrical trade calculations.

#### Demands Slow Work

In every city and town in the land, the college entrance board demands in mathematics, act as an obstacle to proper progress in the instruction of trade mathematics of the electrical trade or any other state or federal aided trade mathematics activity. All of our boys cannot go to college, nevertheless, the college entrance board demands upon school systems are able to control the situation. Attempts made by mathematicians in national and international conventions to remedy the

**Why electrical apprentices should not slight mathematics, and what mathematics electrical apprentices should study are here set forth by a former successful journeyman, who now is a successful teacher.**

situation have only made progress in the hopeful resolution for the future stage. These eminent mathematicians, in a recent Chicago convention, stated that the only way to organize efficient trade mathematical courses was to have the mathematician and the skilled tradesman work out a course with the tradesman analyzing the mechanical operations of his trade and the mathematician following up this analysis and applying principles of mathematics necessary for general trade and trade related calculation purposes. This was a fine scheme in theory. The only trouble is a general failure to allow it successfully to operate. This is stated as no reflection upon the mathematicians who proposed the plan, as they are interested in the development of mathematics as a progressive science and should not be held responsible for conditions caused by the academic demand of the college entrance board. A few quotations made by eminent mathematical authorities will help to set forth the absolute frankness of these men, relative to shop or trade mathematics.

#### From Mathematicians

**Authority Young.** "But widespread as are the applications of mathematics and enormous as its practical value, it may be justly urged that to the large majority of people its importance, though great, is indirect, and that the average citizen has but little need of mathematical facts,

or even an opportunity to use them beyond the merest elements of arithmetic."

**Authority Yokum.** "Little of the secondary school mathematics, as it is now organized, can be considered of direct value to the average individual for the practical purposes of every day life. The general values of secondary school mathematics are small."

**Authority Inglis.** "The majority of business or professional callings require no algebra, geometry or trigonometry, and even the professions which use these subjects do so to a much smaller extent than is generally supposed. There are navigators, surveyors and engineers who make their calculations in almost a mechanical manner, without having perfectly clear notions of the underlying mathematical principles. Only for those few men who become original designers or members of mathematical skill trades is true mathematical skill and knowledge indispensable."

In the electrical trade, an apprentice, or journeyman, should be well trained in mathematics. How are we going to meet the calculations of automatic control of power plants, television, wireless power transmission, and the continued development of the art of talking pictures without a close acquaintance of this necessary tool mathematics? The Brotherhood's aim is thoroughness in practical electrical construction. This means a well balanced ability to do the actual manual work of a job with a proper mental understanding of the theory and mathematics which govern a good job. In other words, plan your work and then work your plan.

#### Suggested Program

As a simple working foundation, an apprentice should be instructed in the simple elements of arithmetic as follows:

#### TRADE ARITHMETIC

1. Addition
2. Subtraction
3. Multiplication
4. Division
5. Common fractions
6. Decimal
7. Simple measures
8. Percentage
9. Powers and numbers
10. Ratio and proportion (elementary)
11. The simple graph

#### Trade Mathematics

##### ELECTRICAL APPLICATIONS

1. Substitution
2. Addition of signed numbers
3. Solution of simple equations
4. Ohm's law
5. Solution of series circuits
6. Equations containing fractions

(Continued on page 332)

**SHALL I TAKE MATHEMATICS?**

**SHALL I LEAVE MATHEMATICS TO ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, AND BECOME A MECHANICAL MULTIPLIER?**

**SHALL I STUDY ALGEBRA?**

**ANSWERED.**

# Sally Lunn Takes B. & O. Crack Train

By SALLY LUNN

MY vacation really began the moment I entered the train. Out of the hot, sticky, dispirited air of the Washington streets I stepped into an atmosphere cool, clean, fresh—positively breezy! For the train was the new "Columbian" of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and it's equipped with an electric cooling system, the first train in the world to offer this ultimate luxury for summer travellers. Every car of the two "Columbians" now in service between New York and Washington, has its own electric cooling system. The air inside is constantly being drawn out through a concealed ceiling fan, to be replaced with washed, filtered, cooled air, admitted by way of inconspicuous louvres specially built into the cars.

A trip on this train is really a vacation in itself. Few summer resorts are so pleasant. I'd give up the delights of sunburn and mosquito bites without a pang, if I could stay in the quiet urbanity of the Columbian's lounge cars; I'd exchange the pleasures of bathing for the shower baths with which the train is equipped; and for meals—well, you just can't beat a B. and O. diner. The only regret about the trip is leaving the train. It would be nice to ride back and forth for days.

The women may wear their gay, pretty clothes and the men their light summer suits without fear of smudging, when they travel on this train. All the windows are kept tightly closed, as, of course, is required for operation of the cooling system. You can see the scenery without getting cinders in the eye or clouds of dust all over your clothes. You reach your destination fresh and modish, instead of feeling like a home-returning coal miner. Since my childhood, I've always associated "riding on the choo-choo cars" with the smell of coal smoke. Now I'll have to get along without that. It's a pleasure, I assure you.

#### Equipped With Silencers

When the train pulls out you'd hardly know it was moving if you didn't notice things outside the window gliding away. The remarkably smooth, silent motion of these cars is caused by "rubber heels," recently installed as shock absorbers between all metal contact points on the underframes of the cars.

How cool is it inside? The effort will be made to maintain a temperature somewhere between 70 and 80 degrees. The railroad maintains that when it is sweltering hot outside, the interior of the cars can be kept at least 15 degrees cooler. There is a thermostatic regulator to cool the car to whatever degree is necessary for comfort. Each car is equipped with a separate cooling system. The air is gently and constantly drawn through a ceiling louvre into an overhead concealed mechanism by means of a noiseless suction fan, hidden in the

First air-refreshed train in world gives delightful ride, with all appointments in keeping with latest device for traveler's comfort. "Columbian" now equipped to repel dust and heat.

upper part of the car. Cooling coils are located in the upper structure over which the air passes for cooling, purifying and de-humidifying. Then through an overhead duct the conditioned air is discharged through deck openings into the body of the car.

The neat little white kitchen in the

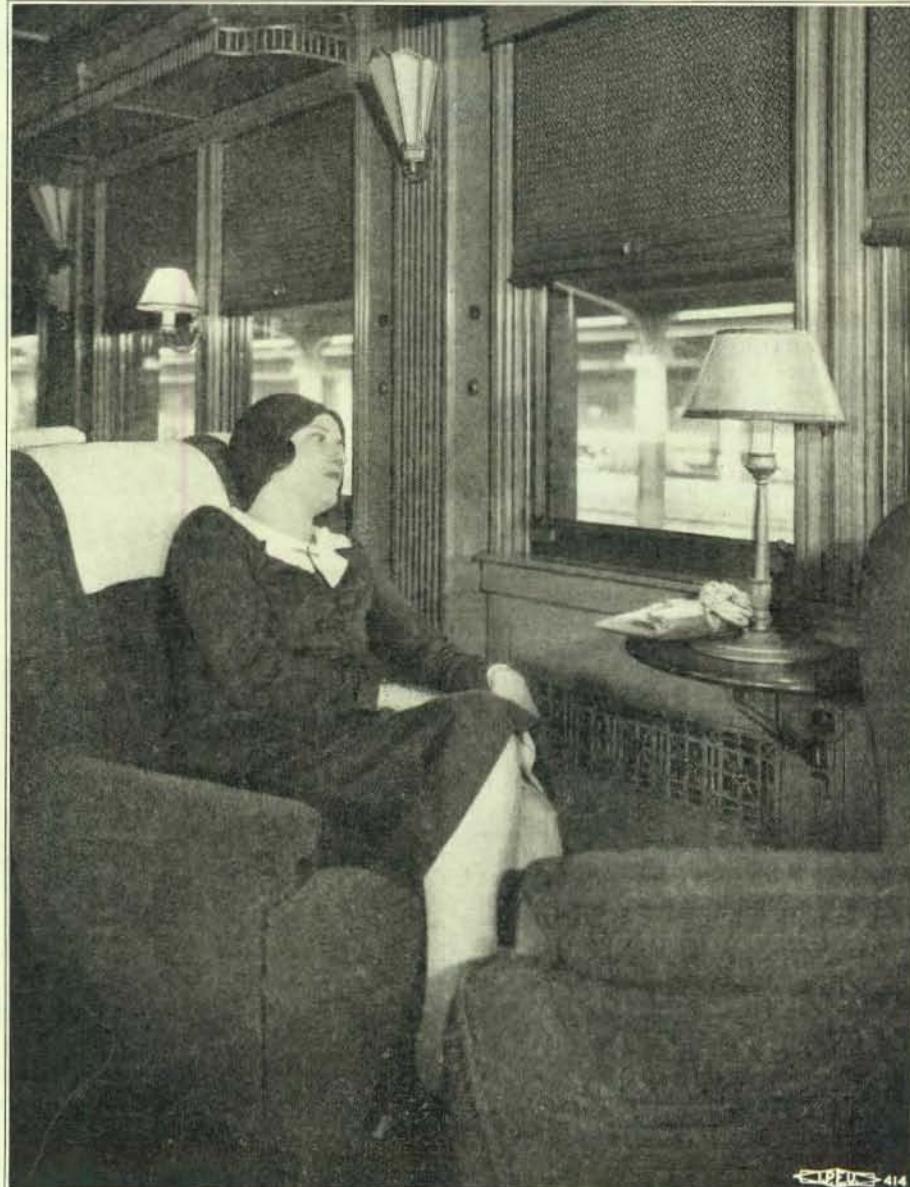
dining car shares in the cooling system and has electric refrigeration as well. Many a sweltering housewife may envy the B. and O. chefs this summer!

#### Green With Envy

And we could take some notes on interior decoration from the furnishings of the Columbian. They are in exceptionally good taste. I was simply green with envy over the little drawing rooms. With their thick carpets, lovely blue upholstered sofas equipped with squishy down-filled cushions, they are too inviting.

The parlor cars have an informal atmosphere with their big green overstuffed arm chairs, interspersed with little tables holding parchment-shaded

(Continued on page 332)



I RELAXED IN AN ATMOSPHERE HOME-LIKE AND COMFORTABLE—COOL AND CLEAN.

# Electrical Workers Throng New York Classes

APPRENTICE education is very much alive among electrical workers in New York City. Stephen Voorhees, president of the apprenticeship commission of the New York Building Congress, has announced that 51 classes out of 114 apprentice classes for all building trades in the



CHARLES C. WHITE  
Winner of the Fenner Medal

city are maintained by electrical workers.

In addition to the regular classes for apprentices the local union operates in conjunction with the Stanley-Patterson Company, a low-tension class, which this year registered 118 students. Examinations and graduation for all classes have recently been concluded. William Reuter is in charge of the education division of the local; George M. Nelson is principal instructor.

J. G. Livingston Co. has just set up an annual award of a kit of tools.

The prize winners in the general classes are as follows:

	Group	Prize
Charles C. White.....	3	Fenner Medal and \$50
Mark E. Woodworth.....	1	Livingston Award— kit of tools
George Bain.....	4	\$20
William Rogers.....	3	20
Murray Hayman.....	2	20
William Beatty.....	1	20
Andrew Squillante.....	3	10
George Jagde.....	3	10
Seymour Berlow.....	2	10
John Seibert.....	2	10
Gerard Bracht.....	2	10
Andrew Forman.....	2	10
George Winternuth.....	2	10
Gustave Reich.....	2	10

**About 50 per cent of apprentice classes for all building trades in New York City are in the electrical workers classes, attended by members of Local No. 3. Recognition of merit principal tenet of instruction.**

	Percentage
Thomas Piggott—Waffle iron.....	92
Charles Schanz—Electric iron.....	91

The class average for the low tension group was 73.44 per cent.

I am not so lost in lexicography as to forget that words are the daughters of earth, and that things are the sons of Heaven.—Samuel Johnson.

The bound volumes of the 1930 Electrical Workers Journal are to be sold again this year for \$3.75 postage prepaid. They are uniform with the volumes of other years, one-fourth leather, handsome and durable.

	Group	Prize
Mark Redmond.....	1	\$10
Donald MacKenzie.....	1	10
Harry Lichtenstein.....	1	10
Harry Schinkel.....	1	10
Harry Alexander.....	1	10
James Blatus.....	1	10
Joseph Wojtiszky.....	1	10
Walter V. Gilles.....	1	10
Milton W. Leslie.....	1	10
William Peaser.....	1	10
August Seiferheld.....	1	10
Samuel Newman.....	1	10
Augustus Thoman.....	1	10
Arthur Schwamberger.....	1	10
Benjamin Greenwald.....	1	10
Edward A. Brady.....	1	5
Alvin F. Kranich.....	1	10
Joseph M. Weiss.....	1	10
William H. Ochs.....	1	10
Benjamin Bershatsky.....	1	10
John Stahl.....	1	10
Walter F. Simon.....	1	10
Edward Busche.....	1	10
Larry Waters.....	1	10
Harry V. Oertel.....	1	10
Edward G. White.....	1	10
Joseph C. Schmelter.....	1	10
Raymond G. Aguilar.....	1	10
Edward E. Weinrich—3d yr. helpers.....		10
William Schoell—2d yr. helpers.....		10
Edward J. Murphy—1st yr. helpers.....		10

The leaders in the low tension classes are:

	Percentage
Philip J. Schmitt—Musette radio set.....	100
Henry W. Neidenstein—Percolator set.....	95
Edward D. DeVito—Waffle iron.....	93

PHILIP J. SCHMITT  
100 Per Cent Student



NEW YORKERS BEING SCHOoled TO LEARN WHAT THEY OUGHT TO KNOW—  
WHAT THEY ARE PAID TO KNOW

# States Grapple With Power Problems

FOR the time at least, the so-called "power battle" has shifted to state fields. Without waiting for federal action, many states are legislating toward a mastery of power problems. Reports to the International Office of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers indicate that the following states are agitating power legislation:

New York	Georgia
Wisconsin	Vermont
Pennsylvania	Oregon
Ohio	Florida
New Hampshire	South Carolina

## New York

New York state has completed plans of ownership and operation of water power on the St. Lawrence.

At the end of the 1930 state legislative session in New York, Governor Roosevelt was instructed to appoint a committee of five, known as the St. Lawrence Development Commission, to investigate the practicability of state development of power on that river. This commission was instructed to report, if possible, a comprehensive plan for the construction and operation of a hydro-electric plant and to present to the legislature forms of contracts with private utility companies for the sale of the power so developed. This plan was to be put into effect by five trustees, to be called the State Power Authority.

The commission made its report in February of this year, showing the feasibility of the project from both engineering and financial standpoints, and recommending the appointment of the power authority. Accordingly a water power bill, known as the cornaire bill, was introduced into the assembly and passed on March 31. The bill then went to the Senate where much wrangling occurred over the extent to which the state should go through with the undertaking. The Republican (majority) party attempted to introduce an amendment to the bill which would effectively prevent the state from performing the transmitting and distributing end of the business, knowing that Governor Roosevelt would veto the bill if the amendment was passed, and so pigeon-hole the entire subject for another year. The amendment, however, was rejected by a majority of only three votes. The bill was ratified by the Senate without the inclusion of the amendment

**Scene of power controversy shifts to various state arenas. Wisconsin and New York propose solutions. Complex differences appear.**

on April 6 and subsequently was signed by the governor.

In its final form the Cornaire bill expressly prohibits the sale or lease of the dam, power house or transmission lines to be built to any private interests. The bill specifically states

"\* \* \* the bed, and power sites \* \* \* shall always remain inalienable to, and the ownership and control thereof shall always be vested in, the people of the state.

"In the development of hydro-electric power therefrom the said project shall be considered primarily as for the benefit of the people of the state as a whole and particularly the domestic and rural consumers to whom power can economically be made available. \* \* \*"

The bill further provides for the ap-

pointment by the governor, with the consent of the Senate, of five trustees, constituting the State Power Authority and charged with financing and supervising the construction and operation of the dam and power development. To do this the trustees must accomplish three things:

1. They must complete and perfect the engineering plans of the project.

2. They must negotiate with the federal and the Canadian government so that no international difficulties will arise.

3. They must either secure contracts satisfactory to themselves and to the governor with private utility companies for the transmission and distribution of the energy, or they must report to the legislature some other practical plan which may specifically involve the erection of transmission lines by the power authority itself.

The power authority is to have jurisdiction over all watersheds emptying into the St. Lawrence River and will fix the rates for which the power is sold on the basis of the lowest possible rates to the consumer, allowing fair returns on the actual capital invested by any private distributing companies concerned.

## Wisconsin

Wisconsin has taken a similar step. Governor LaFollette has recently authorized the Wisconsin plan. "Wisconsin proposes to adopt a policy which will supply electrical energy to agriculture, industry, business, and for domestic use at rates which will compete with those any place in the United States. Wisconsin's power program has three major objectives:

1. Granting to the state and to its municipalities the right, if they so desire, to furnish electrical energy.

2. Effective regulation of both public and private power enterprises so as to provide electrical energy at reasonable rates to all of our economic interests in every part of the state.

3. To supply through a public power corporation the necessary machinery to co-ordinate existing public and private power plants and to develop an integrated power program for the state.

"The Wisconsin power program is not for public ownership as a 'panacea'. It is not against private ownership as a horned devil. The one objective of the Wisconsin power program is to produce and supply electricity to the eco-

(Continued on page 334)



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT  
Governor of New York

# Psychological Organization of Wives Needed

By E. C. VALETINE, L. U. No. 177, Jacksonville, Florida

SOMETIMES, in the dim past, someone said, "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." This may not be altogether true literally, but we know some "Queens" who are able to kick the crown off the man who thought he was the ruler. And we believe that a certain amount of credit should go to them, for it cannot be denied that the women have wielded an influence in many ways that has kept this topsy-turvy world from going haywire. It is very gratifying indeed to note the interest that is being taken by our own women's auxiliaries in the work of the organization. One of the greatest handicaps under which organized workers have had to work, is the lack of sympathetic understanding between members and their families, especially so in times like this.

If one could look into the domestic life of many union men, you would find that where there is lack of understanding of the economic problems confronting that home, that the fault probably lies in the fact that the man has failed to explain his reasons for belonging to the union. Many times the wife looks upon the union as just another source of annoyance, like the current bills and the installment collector. She has never been told that if it were not for the money her husband spends for union dues, that she would very likely have less with which to meet the installments. So the women in the efforts to organize the wife, daughter, and mother of these union electricians are meeting with indifference and are at times discouraged because other women don't see what good it is to them. The members are to blame for this condition—nobody else—because they have never bothered to tell their women folks what it means. Maybe they didn't care, and just used the local meeting as an excuse to get away from home another night—whether they went or not. We know of one ex-member who worked that gag overtime and when he wanted an extra night he could always work the "special meeting." For all we know he is still doing it although he ceased to be a member several years ago, but it is said that he still "goes to the local." We can't seem to care much for that kind, because if he will betray the confidence of a trusting wife, he will bear watching. Just because we have many members who have never taken the pains to explain about their union, we are going to try to explain some of the things we stand for, what we are doing and if it will help to overcome some of the prejudice and skepticism that exist in the minds of some of the fair dames, we will feel repaid for the effort.

A chain is only as strong as its weakest link and there can be no doubt that our principal weakness lies in the lack of education in the homes of our mem-

**What the family eats, and what it wears depend upon the amount that father is able to coax into the weekly pay envelope. The amount depends not only upon father, but upon the organization of his craft.**

bers where most of the income is spent. It is there that the result of the efforts put forth on the job by the breadwinner is felt first, and where it is more noticeable. What we eat and what we wear, the roof over our heads and the few luxuries the family are permitted, de-

pend upon the amount that father is able to coax into the weekly pay envelope. His weekly stipend depends upon his ability to earn and upon how well his craft is able to secure equitable remuneration for his daily labor. You have only to cast your eyes about and see for yourselves that the wages earned where organization is strong, are unquestionably in direct proportion to the strength of the organization, and that the conditions under which men work are more endurable than in localities where the men have failed to avail themselves of the opportunities that are open to them. Just for the sake of argument, and to illustrate the truth of this, we shall cite an example in our own industry in the state of Florida.

(Continued on page 331)



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Courtesy U. S. Bureau of Home Economics  
HOME IS A SPIRIT. ITS SANCTITY CAN BE PROTECTED BY THE FATHER'S UNION. A WIFE CAN MAKE OR BREAK THE TIES WHICH BIND A MAN TO HIS ORGANIZATION.

# Depression Drags Its Slow Length Along

By PETER P. RICE, L. U. 134, Chicago

THE great 1929 Bull market was hailed as a new era of prosperity in the United States. Optimism reigned supreme; skeptics who looked upon the apparent uncontrolled Bull market unfavorably were frowned upon as pessimists, crepe hangers, et cetera. A large majority of well to do persons were counting their mounting paper profits and went on a spending spree. Inconsequential stocks moved upward with the "Blue chips." The country was supposed to have entered its primary stage of a depression-proof era. Wages and production went up. The majority of the country's people were enjoying luxury after luxury and failed to believe the then impending disaster.

A few feeble warnings were sent out in an effort to control the nation's financial tendency but little or no heed was given to such warnings. Our great U. S. A. was in a new era and those believing otherwise were practically disregarded. Economists were busy proving out ideas toward prevention of cyclical periods of prosperity and depression. The nation was looking at the world through rose-colored glasses.

In October, 1929, something happened. This immediately was followed by the crash of the great Bull market. The crash re-echoed throughout the civilized world; and the wild scramble for liquidation began. Mass psychology went into action and the mob surged in the direction of the market.

So sudden the crash that even a few of Wall Street's biggest Bulls were skeptical and refused to liquidate immediately, believing the crash was but a temporary condition.

Economists differ as to exactly what

**This thoughtful weighing of the whole field of the depression is made by a radio electrician in Chicago's police department. It cogently gives history, causes, and direction of the slump.**

caused the something to happen. Some say the crash of a very prominent financial house in London in September, 1929, precipitated our market crash. Others blamed overproduction, post war adjustments, unsettled world conditions, inflation of stocks, over-expansion of credit and various minor reasons.

A combination of these reasons no doubt brought on the world wide depression. Articles have been written on the more important angles of the situation and the writer does not profess to know the exact causes and prevention of the present depression.

History, however, has pointed out that periods of depression invariably follow a combination of causes. These causes are deflation or inflation of money, over-expansion of credit, over-production and the special factors existing previous to the depression.

The depression of the 70's is a good illustration of the combination of causes mentioned. Immediately following the Civil War railroad construction took on wide proportions requiring considerable outlay of money raised through subsidy by the government and through stock promotional methods. The rapid completion of railroads brought serious competi-

tion and losses to the railroads and investors alike. The consequent results of this severe competition brought about the formation of the present Interstate Commerce Commission through legislature, giving the commission a certain amount of control over the rates railroads may charge for passenger and freight transportation.

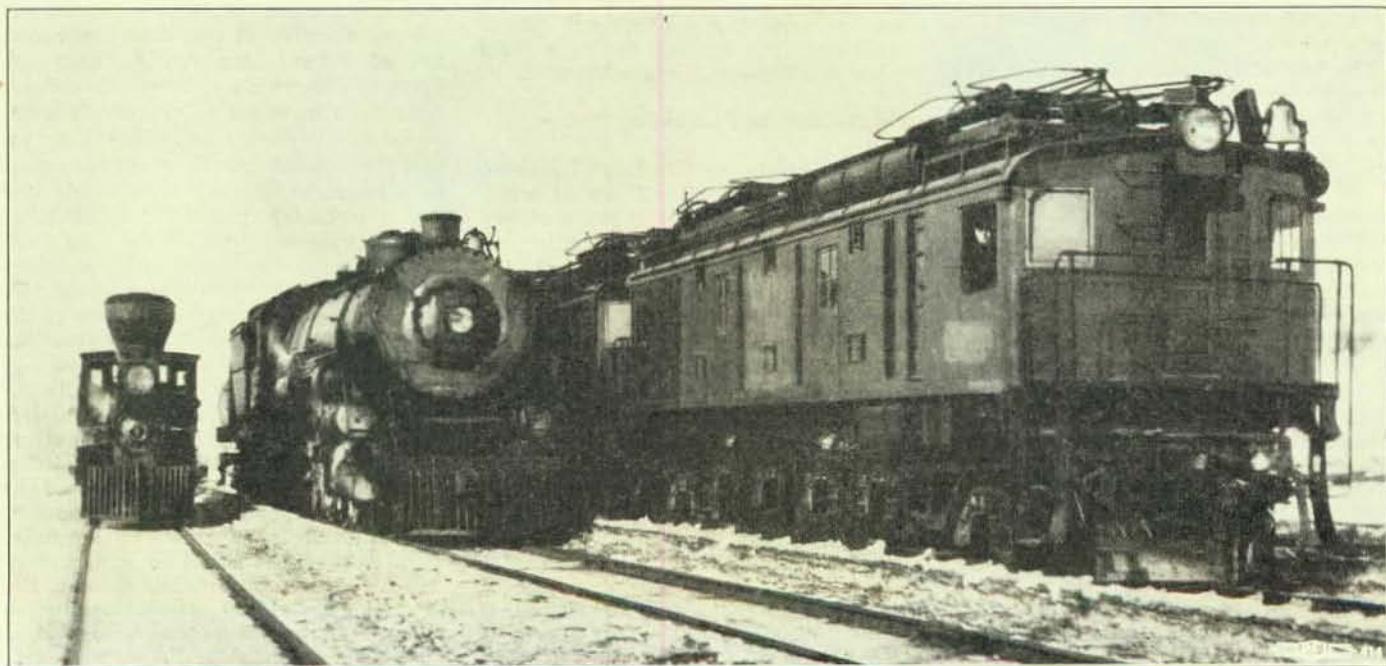
#### Great Trusts Formed

A high tariff for the encouragement and development of home industry brought about severe competition between domestic manufacturers with consequent overproduction and the eventual creation of great business trusts in restraint of trade in order to alleviate the ruthless price slashing amongst manufacturers. These trusts were considered such a public menace that government again had to step into the picture and this time brought about the enactment of Anti-Trust laws that are in force to this day.

Currency deflation after the Civil War due to what now appears to have been improper management previous to the Civil War was another factor that did not help the depression of the 70's. The comparative values of this currency at entirely different periods of time brought about an unfair condition that the government again solved in part by tendering par value to the inflated currency.

Over-expansion of credit and re-discount rates of money have a profound effect upon any country's gold supply and hence its prestige of power and solvency. In this respect the panic of 1837 is an example as at that time large importations of goods and material were

(Continued on page 333)



# Secretary Outlines Position On Wage Cuts

By G. M. BUGNIAZET, International Secretary

HISTORY has proven that in periods of depression, wage reductions have only retarded the resumption of normal conditions, and have not resulted in bringing about more work.

One of the most glaring examples was during the depression of 1921, when the employers in a western city refused to meet an increase in wages for our local union and the matter went to the Council on Industrial Relations. The council, in going over the facts and figures, found



G. M. BUGNIAZET

that the local was entitled to 25 cents an hour more than it was asking, and therefore granted the local its demands. The decision was binding on all parties, but the employers, in some way or other, were able to convince the local that it was to the local's interest to take a reduction from \$12 to \$8 a day, and that if it would take the reduction, within a few weeks they would be able to get enough work to furnish sufficient employment for the members of the local union.

The fact is that conditions in that city grew worse; we continued to have less men employed; and this condition existed for over 14 months after the reduction. That condition is representative of all wage reductions in times of depression.

If the employers would use proper logic, they would reduce some of their profits and give more opportunity to the workers to obtain employment—increasing slightly, if necessary, their wages, so as to prevent the workers—who are the majority class—from going backwards and getting into debt; for it would mean that if the workers were thus provided with income, they would be in a position to purchase, which would relieve such conditions as exist at the present time; whereas if the workers are unemployed and are obliged to go into debt to maintain life, on returning to work they must pay up their debts, thus postponing the time when they will again be potential purchasers.

## Denies that cuts benefit business, or relieve depression.

I think that the example of such men as Mr. Filene, one of the biggest business men in Boston; Henry Ford; Mr. Lamont, Secretary of Commerce, and Mr. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury; in the position taken at the Chamber of Commerce meeting in Atlantic City, should be a guide to the business men of all localities.

Business is on trial in this time of depression, and unless it finds a remedy so that it can operate its business establishments and avoid a recurrence of such conditions as now exist, I am sure that the government and the States will step in and regulate many of the business enterprises. I hope that business will see the light before such a thing occurs.

## A. F. of L. Hits Cuts

A vehement attack upon wage-cutters was made by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, following its May session. The official text follows:

"The executive council, in giving consideration to a number of administrative problems, gave special attention to the unemployment situation and to the attempt which apparently certain banking interests and certain employers are making to bring about a general reduction in wages. Obviously, the situation is serious. Unemployment has steadily increased. The stress of almost two years of increasing unemployment is being more keenly felt. Suffering and distress prevail while social unrest is steadily increasing. There are strong indications that we are facing a third winter of distressing unemployment.

## Assault on Purchasing Power

"Notwithstanding this loss of earning power on the part of millions of working men and women, a number of employers are attempting to further reduce the purchasing power of the masses of the people through the imposition of wage reductions. The Good-year and Goodrich Tire Companies have announced substantial reductions in wages. The significant fact related to this proposed reduction in wages is that automobile and automobile tire manufacturing industries must depend upon a high purchasing power on the part of the masses of the people if a market is to be found for their products. How these industries can find a market for their products if the buying power of the people is still further lowered is difficult to understand.

"The council believes that a wage

cutting policy will positively contribute toward a continuation of the existing unemployment situation. The policy pursued by certain banking interests and employers of labor in attempting to enforce reductions in wages constitutes a public violation of the understanding reached at the President's conference.

"The council holds that the action of these employing interests is indefensible both from an ethical and economic point of view.



WILLIAM GREEN

## Buying Power Must Be Developed

"Everyone knows that what we need is a restoration of buying power and the preservation of the American standard of living. Apparently, those employers who would attempt to enforce reductions in wages think only in terms of increased production. How they expect to market goods produced when they lessen or destroy the already limited purchasing power of millions of people has not yet been explained. What the country needs is the development of buying power, not productive power. The executive committee of the American Federation of Labor is of the opinion that the serious unemployment situation which now prevails calls for drastic consideration and drastic action. It firmly believes that the wage cutting policy urged by certain banking interests and certain employers should be effectively stopped.

"As usual labor must be depended upon to save the situation and prevent the further imposition of injustice. For this reason the executive council calls upon labor, organized and unorganized,

(Continued on page 333)

# Reach Cooperative Agreement

AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE BRICKLAYERS, MASONS AND PLASTERERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA, THE UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA - AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

**FIRST:**

We agree to a general alliance whereby through cooperation a condition will be established calling for the employment on any operation of those workmen who are in good standing in the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of America, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America - and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. It shall be understood that any grievance against any operation that may require co-operative action shall be referred to the International Presidents for action under the following conditions:

**SECOND:**

That in all movements no subordinate union of either International Union shall be permitted to take any local action whatsoever until the question requiring joint action shall have first been submitted to and determined upon by the Presidents of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of America, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America - and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

**THIRD:**

No movement of any character shall be countenanced in cases where such would be in violation of existing agreements that have been submitted to and duly approved by the Presidents of the International Unions as is required by the Constitutional laws thereof.

U. B. of C. & J. of A.  
Executive Board

Wm L. Hutchison  
Chairman  
Frank Duffy  
Secretary

B. M. & P. I. U. of A.

Geo. J. Flory President  
John Gleeson Secretary  
Richard Gray Treasurer  
Harry C. Bates 1st V. P.

I. B. E. W.

H. H. Proach  
President  
John Augmeyer  
Secretary  
Chas O. Fowl  
Chairman Executive Council

May 7, 1931.

# Invents Machine to Aid World Gatherings

**A** BOSTON merchant, Edward A. Filene, who has been quoted widely in labor newspapers for his liberal ideas on wages, has distinguished himself by inventing a device destined to bring world's peoples nearer together. This translating device, coming out of telephone and radio set-ups, enables a speaker to address men in five languages at once. E. C. van Dyke, a publicity firm, describes the device.

A method of multiple, simultaneous translation which utilizes the tested, standard units evolved by telephone and radio engineers, is the American contribution to the growing international spirit in which this country is yet only beginning to participate.

An American company which for some years has done business in seventy-eight foreign countries, is the sponsor of this device. It was the experience of Thomas J. Watson, president of International Business Machines Corporation, in holding his annual sales conventions with representatives of his company's foreign organization that influenced him to take exclusive world rights to the Filene-Finlay Translator. The system is the invention of Edward A. Filene, Boston dry goods merchant, economist and active figure in international affairs.

Briefly the system provides for equipment to be installed in a convention hall or other assembling place, either in temporary or permanent form. When necessary, amplifiers throughout the hall insure that the whole audience may easily hear the speech delivered from the platform or the questions from the floor, microphones being provided at both points. In addition, however, a telephone line from these microphones carries the speech to a translator's center which may be a separate room, a series of soundproof stalls or merely a row of desks in some part of the auditorium.

At the translator's center are a number of highly trained translators, one, of course, for each language which is to be presented to the audience. Each translator wears a telephone headset, through which he hears the speech being delivered. In addition, each translator has a microphone before him, and all of these microphones are connected by a system of telephone cables to every seat in the auditorium.

The speaker at the great international congress now mounts the platform.

"My friends," he begins, for he is to speak in English.

Hearing the speech begin, the German translator lifts his microphone from its hook and instantly the word "German" is illuminated on a large indicator above the speaker's head. All of the German delegates in the hall don telephone headsets which leave their hands free for note taking or other work, and thrust the connecting plugs into receptacles mounted on their chairs and marked "German."

**Boston merchant, noted for advocacy of high wage standards, advances international understanding by inventing translating device, capable of broadcasting five languages at once.**

Similarly, the French translator flashes "French" on the indicator and the French-speaking delegates plug into the connection marked "French" on their seats.

The Italian translator and the Spanish translator have also lifted their microphones and flashed "Italian" and "Spanish" on the indicator, whereupon the Italian and Spanish delegates immediately plug their headsets into the desired connections.

"My friends, —" repeats the speaker, and scarcely have the words fallen from his lips than —

"Meine freunde," says the German translator to the German delegates.

"Mes amis," says the French translator to the French delegates.

"Amigos," says the Spanish translator to the Spanish delegates.

"Amicos mios," says the Italian translator to the Italian delegates.

And then the speaker in English has the unique experience of seeing his words register in the minds of an audience of whom only a few can speak that language. As he finishes his speech, there is a moment of silence as the

translators speak his last words, then a round of applause. He has delivered his message and the audience is ready for the next speaker.

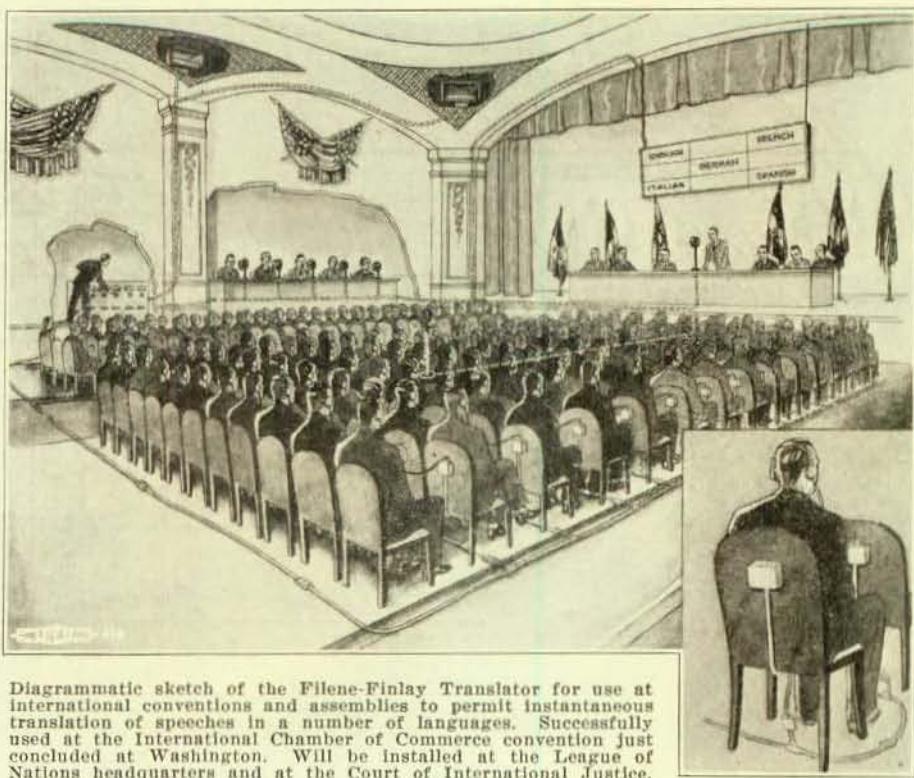
In cases where a speech is made in a language which all of the translators do not understand, one of them becomes a master translator. He receives the speech and translates to the other translators in a language which all understand. They simultaneously re-translate it in the various languages to the audience.

Had this speaker talked for thirty minutes under the old system of consecutive translation, he would have been succeeded by four translators, each speaking for thirty minutes in his own tongue and his speech would have taken two and one-half hours for its total delivery.

The system is largely made up of standard telephone and radio units. Radio amplifying units are used to increase and control the volume of sound from the loud speakers as well as that delivered to the translators and from them to the audience. A special type of microphone has been developed for the use of the translator, so that no sounds other than his own voice can enter the instrument and the sound of his speaking is not heard by those working next to him. By this means, it will be possible for translators to work in the open hall instead of sound proof booths for each man being required.

International Business Machines Corporation have created a staff of skilled electrical engineers to further develop

(Continued on page 334)



# Head of World Church Talks on Industry

CATHOLICS of the world have a new document to guide them in questions of the ethics of industry. Pope Pius has penned and published a 20,000-word dissertation, an encyclical letter, designated as "Quadragesimo Anno", which is said by such authorities as Dr. John A. Ryan, to mark an advance over the position of the Catholic Church, outlined by Pope Leo XIII, 40 years ago.

Some of the tenets expressed are:

**Reiterates ethical value of labor unions.**

**Advocates making wage-earners sharers in ownership and management.**

**Advocates a wage adequate enough so that a worker can save "moderate property".**

**Sets up sanctity of wages as first lien upon a business.**

**Charges the state with duty to legislate in favor of laboring classes.**

**Wants self-governing in industry controlled by the state.**

**Demands redistribution of wealth on a fairer basis.**

**Supports co-operative relations as between employers and unions.**

As to the age-old conflict between capital and labor, the Pontiff declares:

"Altogether different is the labor one man hires out to another, and which is expended on the property of another. To it apply appositely the words of Leo XIII (7): 'It is only by the labor of workingmen that states grow rich.' (36) Is it not, indeed, apparent that the huge possessions which constitute human wealth are begotten by and flow from the hands of the workingman, toiling either unaided or with the assistance of tools and machinery which wonderfully intensify his efficiency? Universal experience teaches us that no nation has ever yet risen from want and poverty to a better and loftier station without the unremitting toil of all its citizens, both employers and employed. But it is not less self-evident that these ceaseless labors would have remained ineffective, indeed, could never have been attempted had not God, the Creator of all things, in His goodness bestowed in the first instance the wealth and resources of nature, its treasures and its powers. For what else is work but the application of one's forces of soul and body to these gifts of nature for the development of one's powers by their means? Now the natural law, or rather, God's will manifested by it, demands that right order be observed in the application of natural resources to human needs, and this order consists in everything having its proper owner. Hence, it follows that unless a man apply his labor to his own property, an alliance must be formed between his toil and

**Pope Pius suggests participation of workers in management and ownership of business, in illuminating document. Advances historical position of church in labor and industrial questions.**

his neighbor's property, for each is helpless without the other.

"This was what Leo XIII had in mind when he wrote, 'Capital cannot do without labor, nor labor without capital'.

"(37) It is therefore, entirely false to ascribe the results of their combined efforts to either party alone, and it is flagrantly unjust that either should deny the efficacy of the other and seize all the profits.

"Capital, however, was long able to appropriate to itself excessive advantages; it claimed all the products and profits, and left to the laborer the barest minimum necessary to repair his strength and to insure the continuation of his class. For by an inexorable economic law, it was held, all accumulation of riches must fall to the share of the wealthy, while the workingman must remain perpetually indigent or reduced to the minimum needed for existence."

Dr. Ryan measures the significance of the new pronouncement:

"When the sovereign Pontiff thinks it worth while to write a 20,000-word encyclical on a subject that had been comprehensively treated by one of his predecessors only 40 years earlier, he evidently does not intend to perform a task of mere repetition.

"Pius XI gives the reasons for the new encyclical. He wishes to vindicate and develop the social and economic doctrines laid down by Leo XIII in view of the doubts that have arisen concerning some of these doctrines 'and the changed conditions of society'. It is precisely these new interpretations, applications and developments of social

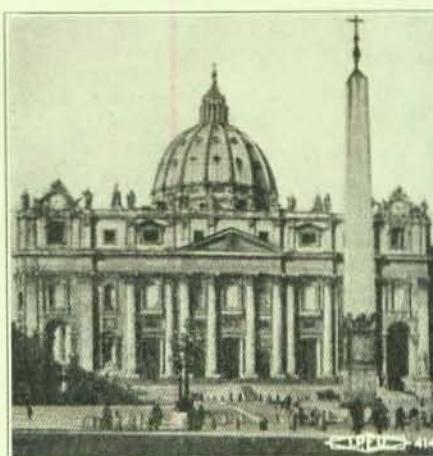
and economic teaching that are of most interest to Americans in the new encyclical."

## URGES THAT MEN WEAR "WORKING CLOTHES" TO DANCE

That men ought to wear "working clothes" in ballrooms just as women do, or ought to design some special kind of light and loose clothing especially for dancing, is the contention of Prof. E. Friedberger, director of the Research Institute for Hygiene and Immunology of Berlin, expressed in a recent statement circulated by the Men's Dress Reform Party of London, England. The chief duty of clothing, Professor Friedberger points out, is to help regulate the rate of heat loss from the body. In winter, clothing should be of such character as to decrease this loss of heat, so that the body does not become too cold. In summer, on the other hand, clothing should increase this heat loss and the same is true of the clothing to be worn when working in hot places. Dancing, the German savant insists, is clearly a variety of bodily "work". It is, indeed, about the only kind of bodily work that many men ever indulge in. Yet the conventional ballroom attire, Professor Friedberger recalls, is the "tight-fitting dress suit, with the stiff collar and starched shirt front", a ridiculous contrast to the "airy, practical dress" of the fashionable dancing woman. Any clothing that permits perceptible perspiration, except under very hot conditions where one would perspire if wearing no clothes at all, Professor Friedberger condemns as either too hot or too impervious to the water vapor which healthy skins continually give off. Men already wear reasonably sensible clothing for most kinds of physical work and for sport. Ballroom dancing should be considered in the work class and clothed accordingly.

## CHALLENGES SCIENCE TO END HARD TIMES

One way to end the present business slump, it was urged by the distinguished British economist, Mr. J. M. Keynes, in a recent address at the Royal Institution, in London, would be for someone to make a new and revolutionary invention like the steam engine. The chief thing that continues a business slump, Mr. Keynes said, is that there is no incentive for investment. At present savings are greater than investments. Money that is saved is not being translated into useful labor. Accordingly workmen who would have done that labor are unemployed. One way to increase useful investment at the expense of unproductive savings would be to replace with new capital the money now tied up in machines and other factory equipment. But no manufacturer is likely to do this, Mr. Keynes admits, so long as business is bad and sales are small, all of which makes business just that much worse. The deadlock would be broken and the present world-wide slump would be ended, Mr. Keynes believes, if some scientist would only make a great, new, revolutionary invention of importance to industry, like a practicable solar engine or an atomic engine. That would stimulate investment at once and would revive industry everywhere. Unfortunately, Mr. Keynes sees no sign of any such invention, but the challenge is presented to science.



ST. PETER'S, ROME

# Appalling Employment Trend in Radio Field

HERE are three main branches in the radio manufacturing business, the production of receiving sets, of tubes, and of parts and accessories. Set and tube factories are both concentrated in only a few plants, most of which are located around New York City and Chicago. The production of parts and accessories, however, is carried on in many factories scattered throughout the country and is almost always combined with the production of parts and accessories pertaining to other industries, frequently the automobile industry.

The radio manufacturing industry is characterized by extreme seasonality, the peak months of activity occurring in late summer and early fall. The length of time a plant has operated, its size or location appears to have little effect on the stability of its employment. Receiving set plants are the most sensitive of the three branches to changes in the activity of the industry. The peak of employment in these plants appears in August, September and October. It is of comparatively short duration, employment declining rapidly to a low ebb in early winter and exhibiting pronounced instability from month to month until the peak season of the following year. In 24 receiving set factories reporting a combined total of 55,000 employees in September, 1929, the employment had dropped to 23,000 by December.

#### Swift Changes

In the 16 plants submitting a complete record for that year, it was found that only one-half of the number of men and one-third of the number of women employed during the rush period still had their jobs by December. As a rule the women working in the radio industry are more affected by extreme fluctuations in employment than men. They also receive much lower wages. About the same number of men as women are employed in the receiving set factories, though the exact proportion depends on which type of labor is the more readily available in the community.

In the radio tube factories, on the other hand, women always greatly outnumber men, the latter being employed only in maintenance of highly skilled work, while the former perform all the assembly jobs. Employment in the tube factories is considerably stabler than in the set factories, although we find the same recurring fluctuations in employment and the same short peak season here. For the four years 1926 to 1929, the last year for which data is available, the minimum employment in the receiving set industry ranged between 30 per cent and 41 per cent of the maximum each year, while in the tube industry the minimum always fell between 44 per cent and 63 per cent of the maximum. This is the equivalent of saying that in actual life one-half of the number of men and women ordinarily employed during the peak season in the tube fac-

**Profitable new industry has turnover that staggers investigators of U. S. Department of Labor. Summary of Bulletin issued by Women's Bureau "Fluctuation of Employment in Radio Industry".**

ties and from 3-5 to 2-3 in the receiving set factories were laid off during the depression normally coming at the end of each year.

#### Four to One

The production of radio parts and accessories includes the manufacture of coils, condensers, rheostats, resistance

units, etc. A large share of the plants are located in the eastern and middle western section of the country although these factories are also engaged in making miscellaneous articles for other industries, so that it is impossible to allocate the exact amount of labor devoted to radio by them. Their employment records show the same fluctuations characteristic of the other two branches of the industry. The peak and low ebb employment in the parts and accessories factories coincides with the maximum and minimum season for sets and tubes.

For the most part such a thing as a definite schedule of hours of work at radio plants either does not exist or is not adhered to. Overtime is quickly followed by undertime, and that in turn is frequently followed by no work at all. The labor turnover of the industry is

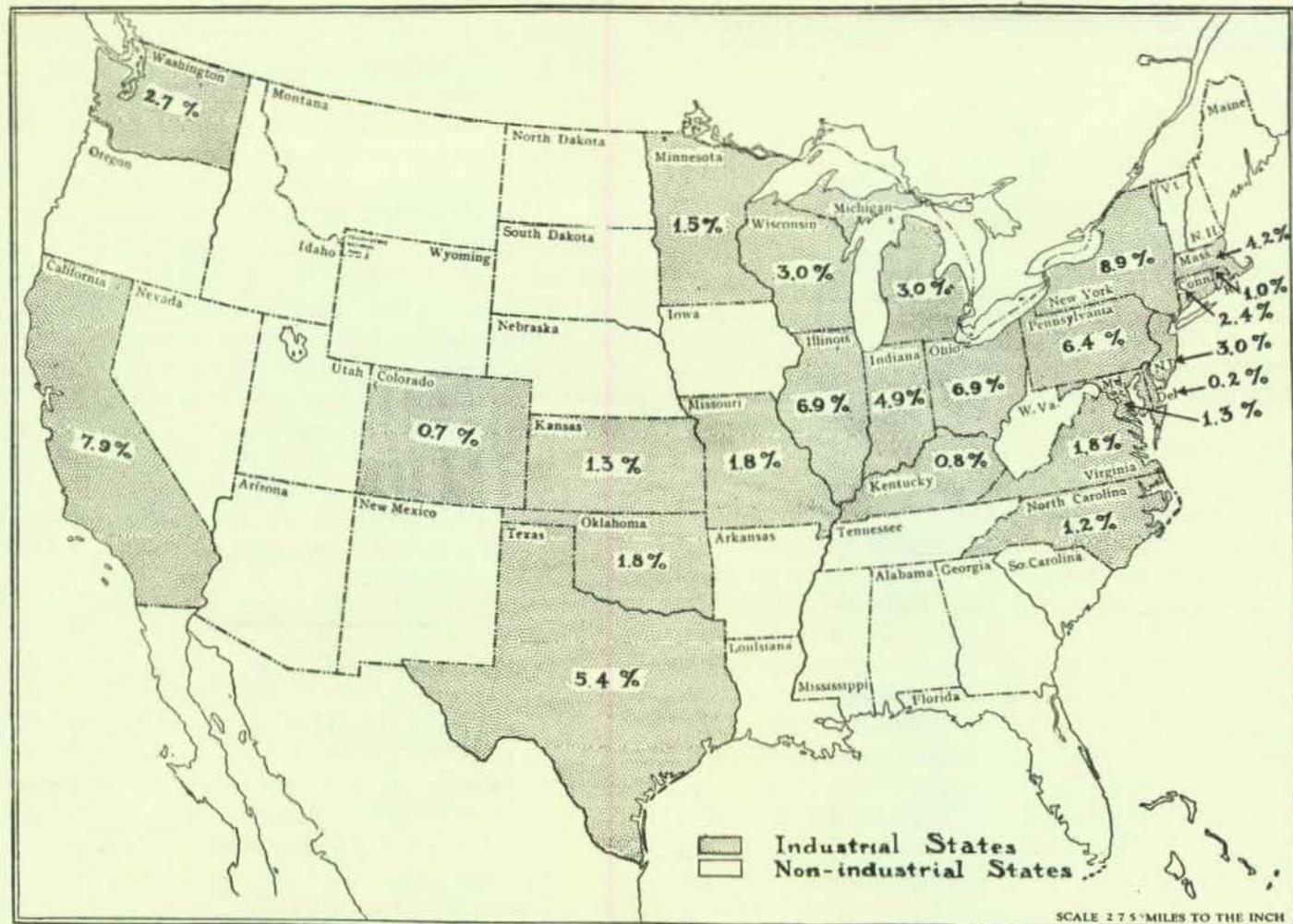
(Continued on page 336)



Courtesy General Electric  
ONE OF THE FIRST DRAMAS BROADCAST OVER RADIO  
PROPS OF TELEVISION DRAMA

When WGY, the pioneer in the radio drama, presented the first drama by television, three portable cameras or transmitters were used, one each for two characters in the drama and a third camera for "props" and hands. Because of the present limitations of the art, only the faces of the actors can be shown. This picture shows the "props" camera and the two people whose hands were reproduced. Under the direction of Mortimer Stewart, action was put into the performance by introducing the hands of a man and of a woman, using revolvers, cigarettes, keys, rings, mask and numerous other things. The play was J. Hartley Manners' "The Queen's Messenger," written thirty years ago and familiar to theatregoers. The play was presented exactly as offered on the stage. WGY and other stations of the General Electric Company are managed by Martin P. Rice.

**PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL NUMBER OF LOCAL UNIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCATED IN THE 24 STATES MAKING LARGEST TOTAL INCOME TAX RETURN IN 1931**



# JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Official Publication International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Devoted  
to the  
Cause



of  
Organized  
Labor

Volume XXX

Washington, D. C., June, 1931

No. 6

**Restriction of Output** Professional labor haters persist in spreading the unproved rumor that trade unions restrict output. This is looked upon as a heinous crime—another piece of evidence of the dastardly evil of organization, and is used as foundation for new attacks upon the societies of the workers.

Now comes a serious study from the laboratories of a group of trained investigators—a report on restriction of output made by several scores of students under the direction of a professor at Antioch College. These men went into many different kinds of industries, worked there, became acquainted with the men upon the job, learned their habits, shared their ideas, and then returned with the information: "All workers restrict output." Non-union workers tend to regulate their own habits of performing jobs, as do union workers.

And then transpires a piece of evidence that is not new to any labor unionist. Men tend to soldier on the job, not out of some low motive—hatred of the boss, natural laziness, or a spirit of mischief—no, but because of the spectre of fear which haunts every worker under this industrial civilization of ours—the fear of loss of job. Behind that, the other grinning demons of unemployment, want, hunger, disgrace, and permanent insecurity, beckon and inspire the very human desire to make the present job last as long as possible.

Professional labor baiters would have the world believe that unionists soldier on the job to get even with the boss. Where jobs are comparatively secure unions become great instruments in increasing production.

**Wage Cut Fallacies** How extensive and well-organized the campaign of wage-cutting is, is indicated by the obscene performance of two well-known radio performers, who are reported to "talk to millions". These black-face publicity men adopted the uneconomic point of view of American bankers, and "put it across" in a skit that must have sounded dull and unconvincing even to unsophisticated ears. Their performance is only another indication of the commercialized character of radio entertainment. The "artists" are just as willing to "sell" a spurious wage philosophy as a toothpaste.

Amos' and Andy's slashing of the payroll at the lunchroom in order "to get business started" contains the same economic fallacies of other big business men. Wages are being slashed right and left for the following reasons:

- (a) To keep from laying off men.
- (b) To give a push to business.
- (c) To lower costs.

The way to keep from laying men off is, of course, to shorten hours of production. The way to give a push to business is to maintain and increase purchasing power. The arguments involved in this reasoning are so sound and so familiar that we need not rehearse them.

But take the other fallacy—that of lowering costs by cutting wages. Even this is false. So much production now is done by machinery that labor is financially a much smaller factor in production costs than formerly. For manufacturing concerns labor is only 16.5 per cent of the total cost of production. A 10 per cent cut in wages would be reflected as only two per cent decrease in total costs. It would take a 50 per cent cut in wages to exact a 10 per cent decrease in total costs. And, so far, no firm has had the nerve to cut wages 50 per cent, however much it and its banker abettors would desire to. In short, there are *no* economic reasons for wage cuts. The cuts are being made without reason, or reasoning, and indicate the intellectual bankruptcy of certain sections of the business class.

**George F. Baker** When George F. Baker died last month the newspapers had a hard time to find appropriate things to say. Here was a man 90 years old, who had been active almost to the day of his death, in the financial world, and yet there was not enough accomplishment in this long life to fill an inch of space. All that this billionaire banker had done was to endow a few schools and charitable institutions.

He had never uttered a distinguished phrase.

He had never brought forth a creative idea.

He had never done a single significant deed in behalf of business, industry or his nation. He was uncreative, non-productive and anti-social.

His principal function was to set a strategic place in the industrial and banking world and collect dividends. He was known to be worth between \$250,000,000 and \$500,000,000, and yet his will disclosed only \$75,000,000. Canny to the last, he had spirited his fortune away in order to sidestep taxes, and to quiet public opinion. What a noble citizen he was! What a patriot!

When the panic came in 1929, he was at home slightly ill. He begged to go downtown (says TIME). "This is my ninth panic. I have made money in every one of them."

What a glorious epitaph! I have made money out of the misfortune of my people. I have made money out of the misery and tears of millions. I have made money out of my nation's great disaster.

Mr. Baker was the largest shareholder in the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. At any time he could have taken leadership to put that corporation upon an enlightened industrial basis with its employees. But he preferred to go through the mechanical process of clipping coupons, and to die with the ashen words upon his lips, "I have made money".

**Every Man Pays Taxes** The tax on chain stores—levied by Indiana—has been made legal by the U. S. Supreme Court. This has been hailed as a liberal victory. It does have some liberal aspects. It makes a national industry help support the local community in which it does business. Whether the imposed tax will benefit the independent grocers and druggists is doubtful. The chains exist and still grow. They still tend to strangle competition.

The illiberal character of the Supreme Court decision consists of putting the stamp of approval upon a form of the sales tax. This, as have other decisions of the court, may grow into a very different sort of thing. It may pave the way for a general sales tax—much to the detriment of retail business in general, and much to the disadvantage of the small consumer and the small producer.

Rest assured, a bitter battle over taxation waits in the wings. The federal government has a deficit now of more than \$1,000,000,000. This must be wiped out. New tax sources must be uncovered. It is apparent that already a struggle is progressing between three powerful groups, bankers, real estate men, and retailers. The bankers want a land tax. This the real estate men have rejected for heavier income taxes. It is not unlikely that both would be willing to compromise upon a sales tax. Luckily the retailers are opposing this form of levy because it impedes trade.

The sales tax levies an unreasonable and unfair amount of tax upon the wage-earner. It imposes a levy upon everything a wage-earner needs. Inasmuch as the difference between what the wage-earner consumes and what the rich man buys is not in proportion to their respective incomes, it can readily be seen that such a tax is unfair.

**Remembering** This nation owes a debt to William Green, Senator LaFollette, Senator Couzens, and other men, who have refused to be lulled into quietude by reports of improved business. These men have forced the country to fix their eyes on December, not June. They have showed that business moves so slowly today that it cannot save us from serious shortages in the winter months. They have tried to stir men's imaginations with pictures of the third winter of the depression. They have tried to change the callous judgment of men who should know better and set up a wise policy of preparedness in place of optimistic drift.

This is well. There is no need to gloss over the seriousness of the situation. Foresight is better than regret. The nation will go into the winter of 1931-1932 with fewer reserves, lessened morale, and well-nigh exhausted nerve power. The cities of the nation which have generously given relief have no money for such purposes left. More funds are not at present in sight. These conditions are apparent now, and it must occur even to the simplest of us that relief cannot be organized overnight. It must be planned for. To wait until the snow is upon the ground, and the hungry throng the doorways, is to set up the flag of folly.

Our local unions may well be reminded by these facts that the summer months are a good time for them to look forward to December. This is written with not the slightest tinge of criticism. Our locals have risen nobly to the situation during the past two years. They have not flinched or shirked,

but have stood by out-of-work members with courage, good sense, and devotion. They have strained their reserves to the breaking point. This has not been forgotten, when we write that June should bring reminders of December. Much has been done. Much can still be done. Co-operation is a great tool with which to oppose disaster.

**Barriers to Jobs** A young man in Washington, D. C., following an examination to become a certified public accountant, in which he failed, ran amuck. When the smoke had cleared away, he had murdered a policeman, all but shot to death a night club manager, and killed himself. He had failed twice before in his examination. Grief over his failure, and nervous strain are said to have made him mad.

Shortly afterwards, a friend of this young man wrote to a daily newspaper bitterly attacking the way the examinations are conducted. He charged there was a conspiracy to keep young men out of the ranks of the accountants. He went further, and charged that medical and legal examinations are barriers to easy entrance into the professions. In short, there is a conspiracy in the restraint of trade in these noble callings.

Nothing is being done about it. How often electrical workers are charged with the same human failing of trying to protect the public by only admitting qualified workmen to membership.

**Luxuries and Necessities** In another part of this magazine is a discussion of living standards. This stresses the out-of-date standards set up by old budgets, and through them the obsoleteness of cost-of-living figures. Cost-of-living figures are being used as one major argument for wage cuts. Old budgets fail to include most modern necessities—few electrical products—and hew to the barest existence standards.

Soon after this discussion was put into type, W. D. Terrell, Director of Radio, U. S. Department of Commerce, declared in an interview in the U. S. Daily:

"It no longer can be said that radio broadcasting is a novelty that soon will wear off, or that it is a luxury to be afforded only by the wealthy. Broadcasting stations are constantly improving the caliber of programs offered to the public, and daily win over greater audiences. While radio receiving set sales have fallen off, radio manufacturers, I am informed, have not suffered as greatly as those in other lines of endeavor. To my mind, this shows clearly that radio is accepted as an integral part of the present-day living standard in this country, for if radio were a luxury or a novelty people would not invest in receiving apparatus to the extent that they do. The radio set, like the automobile, now is looked upon as indispensable in the average American family. Both are used for pleasure, but both likewise have become necessary from the practical standpoint."

"An integral part of the present-day living standard"—indeed, this could be said of electric refrigerators, silk stockings, electric fans, bathtubs, preventative medicine, and a dozen other things not included in the old budgets.

It is time that the old budgets be brought up to date. When they are, it will be seen that wages should not be cut.



# WOMAN'S WORK



## THE HOUSEWIFE'S GREATEST BOON

By SALLY LUNN

NEXT to a loving husband and healthy, obedient children, the housewife's greatest boon is a really good cooking stove. If you have experienced the vexations, delays and disappointments of a poor one, I know you'll agree with me. Wood, coal, gas, oil and pressure gasoline—I've fussed over them all. And it's my unbiased opinion that the modern electric stove is the greatest cooking machine ever delivered into a grateful housewife's hands.

Cooking by electricity has many advantages. The new electric ranges are not slow—the elements glow in a moment to a high heat which will bring a kettle to a boil as quickly as any other kind of stove. Once the boiling begins, the burner may be turned to medium heat, or to low—a faint glow that nevertheless keeps the kettle simmering at a perfect cooking temperature. Scarcely any water need be used, cooked vegetables thus retaining all their valuable vitamins and mineral salts.

Roasting, baking or broiling in an electric oven is satisfaction plus convenience. Built of two or three thicknesses of metal and porcelain with air spaces between, tightly sealed, without a vent, the food cooks in an atmosphere moist with live steam, as in a pressure cooker. Meat is tender, juicy, and loses hardly any weight by cooking. Cooking aromas are not wafted all over the house. Moreover, the electric oven is extremely fast. Even at the same temperature, moist heat seems to cook faster than dry heat. A large roast may be done in less than an hour and a half; baked beans in three hours; muffins for breakfast in 20 minutes.

### Advantages Rule

Vegetables may be placed in the oven in glass baking dishes to stew in their own juices. The temperature control makes it possible to bake cakes by the clock. The air space insulation of the oven keeps the inside hot, the outside cool, consequently the whole kitchen does not broil with the chops. And speaking of broiling—the smokeless, flameless glow of the electric element gives broiled meat a flavor that compares with that broiled over a charcoal fire. You never know how good food can taste till you have it cooked in this way with the natural flavor unimpaired.

If you wish, you may have your electric stove equipped with a clock that can be set to turn the oven on and off at certain hours—you can put the dinner in the oven, go away, and return just in time to put it on the table. If you should be late, the oven will shut off at the time you set it to, but the interior, including the dinner, will keep hot for quite a long time.

ing for all your kitchen outlets and do your ironing, toasting, and other operations on the power rate, you may find that installing a stove will raise your total electric bill very little.

### Not Expensive to Operate

In Washington, D. C., where the lighting rate is 4.5 cents a kilowatt hour and the power rate two and a quarter cents the total bill for power for one residence amounted to \$2.10 for a representative month. Power included current for the electric stove, iron, toaster, and sewing machine. The bill for lighting in the same month was \$1.34. The total bill then was \$3.44. In this particular case, before the advent of the electric stove, with accompanying power wiring, the lighting bill, which included current for all other appliances, sometimes amounted to as much as \$3.50. Thus by the installation of the power wiring the stove is operated, and the bill actually shows a decrease. Low power rates everywhere would result in an enormous increase in the use of electricity for cooking.

Just as in the automobile field, there is a great variety of makes of electric stoves and naturally some are more efficient than others. The Consumers' Research, Inc., a non-partisan testing bureau, recommends only a few

that meet their standards. Among them are the Electrochef, the Westinghouse, and the G. E. Hotpoint. While the latter two are good standard makes, the Electrochef is particularly recommended by the bureau. It is radically different in appearance. It was designed by an engineer and a home economics expert, and everything is logical. The table elements are cone shaped. They may be screwed in or out like a light bulb, and may be washed in the dish pan if you wish. Each table element is surrounded by a glistening chromium-plated bowl, also removable, that reflects all the heat onto the bottom of the kettle. The whole stove is finished in porcelain and chromium plate, nothing to rust, with round corners that make it easy to clean. Even the oven is lined with chromium. This stove is completely modern, fast, economical and quite an ornament to the kitchen. It's made by the Electromaster Company, of Detroit.

(Continued on page 336)



The Electrochef—a Modern Electric Cooking Machine.

Of course you know that cooking by electricity is clean—the cleanest method we have. No smoked kettles, no grimy kitchen walls!

These are just some of the advantages. But there are disadvantages, too. Among them are: a high first cost for the stove. This is probably equalized by the fact that an electric stove will last longer than almost any other kind. High cost of power wiring is another detriment to most people, but a good deal of the expense is for labor, and the wife of an electrical worker ought to be in a position to get it done for the cost of materials alone—oughtn't she? About the most serious objection is the high cost of electric current in many sections of the country. On the west coast and in Canada, where rates are low, a large percentage of the cooking is done by electricity. Where the power rate is under four cents a kilowatt hour, electric cooking is not extravagant. In fact, if you install power wir-

# the wedding



*The bride is exquisitely gowned in white cotton lace with a train and veil of fine net. Youthful princess lines give beauty and dignity.*

*Scalloped tiers lend a picturesque air to the frock of pastel organdie worn by the bridesmaid. The gloves are of a new cotton lace mesh.*

Courtesy Cotton Textile Institute

# CONSTRUCTIVE HINTS

## Mine Hoist Motors

The use of electricity in operating hoists for raising coal or water or for transporting materials from one location to another in mining districts is rapidly increasing. Particularly is this true in shaft mines and in localities where materials must be carried across deep gullies and ravines on cable ways. The electric hoist shows its superiority over other types of hoists by being more economical of power, no power being used when the hoist is idle. It has superior speed control; it is simpler in operation and has a smaller number of parts to get out of order; it is lighter in weight, self-contained and more flexible; it has no reciprocating parts, no smoke, no cylinders to freeze and operates in a most satisfactory manner.

## Location of Lights

No general rule can be given for the location of lights for general illumination. It is always desirable to so distribute the units that uniform illumination will result. Where the number and location of lighting outlets is not determined by the architectural considerations, or by arrangement of the furniture and fixtures, it is desirable to arrange the lighting outlets in the form of squares or rectangles.

For a given ceiling height, the higher the ceiling the larger the squares can be. As a general rule, they should about equal the height of the ceiling. For offices that have no desk lighting, the squares should be three-fourths the height of the ceiling to reduce shadows; for stores, the squares can be a little larger. If the room is divided by partitions, each enclosure should be treated as a separate room. Where the ceiling is divided into panels or broken up by girders, the size and location of these often determine the spacing of the lights. In such cases, it is advisable to space the lighting units symmetrically according to decorations and girders and select lamp sizes and reflectors adaptable to such spacing.

## Sawing Slate

For making an emergency slate panel or cutting down the size of a panel on the job, try this hint: Place the slate panel across a pair of saw horses. Mark the section to be cut off. Use a carpenter's rip saw. Drill a hole in the front of the saw. Hook a three-pound weight to this hole. When you begin to saw to the line, the weight keeps your saw from buckling and aids in making a square cut.

## A Job Made Lead Shield

On the job electrical workers at times find it difficult to make some of the patented bolt shields hold. When in difficulty try this: Drill your hole into the concrete deep enough to take the bolt used. Then caulk the hole full of scrap lead. Next drill a hole through the caulked lead one-eighth of an inch smaller in area than the bolt used. Oil or grease your bolt and drive it into the drilled hole. Be sure to use a little oil or grease on the bolt and thereby prevent twisting off the bolt head. Properly done this bolt will hold until the end of time and then some.

## Reversed Armature Coil

A trouble that may exist in an armature is a reversed coil. Instead of the armature winding progressing uniformly around from bar to bar of the commutator, at some point a coil may be connected backward. While a manufacturer should weed out such mistakes, they do sometimes occur, causing annoyance, if not actual trouble. Such a reversed coil often causes bad sparking. A practical way to locate this coil is to pass through the armature at opposite points on the commutator a current, and then with a compass explore around the armature, the direction of magnetism from slot to slot. If a coil is reversed when the compass comes before it, the compass needle will reverse, giving a very definite indication of the wrongly connected coil.

## Gear Board

Gear board consists of layers of especially strong, closely woven canvas, highly compressed and permanently held in compression by means of a compound with which the whole mass is coated and finally set by a curing process. This results in a material at once strong and with a degree of elasticity making it especially suitable for silent speed gears.

## Slate Switchboards

Slate finished marine black makes an excellent switchboard material. Slate is one of the strongest and most serviceable materials known for this service, and where the voltage of the live parts mounted on it does not exceed 750 volts, its insulating properties are entirely satisfactory. Where necessary for insulation above 750 volts, marble panels should be used.

## Photometry

Photometry is the art of measurement of light and the comparison of different sources of light. Light is a physiological, rather than a physical quantity and cannot be measured in terms of any absolute system of measurement. The measurement of illumination or light is therefore based upon arbitrary standards. Formerly the standard of light measurement was a candlepower, made according to certain standards and used in a certain way. The manipulation of these standards required much care in order to assure that results would be at all correct. Flame standards of this kind are still used to a certain extent, but for all practical purposes carefully seasoned carbon filament lamps are preferred. These secondary standards are rated in international candles, which is the recognized unit in most countries.

There are many types of photometers but most of them employ one of the three principles herein described. In all of them it is necessary to compare illumination by means of the eye and this introduces a certain error, since it is seldom that two observers will see things exactly alike.

## Nail Set

A carpenter's nail set is a handy tool in removing floors and baseboards. With this tool a number of nails can be punched through the board and prevent a broken board and preserve the final finish.

## Illuminating Terms Defined

**Candlepower.** This term as commonly used denotes the light giving power of a lamp. Unless qualified by one of the following terms, such as hemispherical, apparent, etc., its meaning is very loose, as the candle power of most lamps varies greatly at different angles.

**Apparent Candle Power.** This term is generally applied only to lamps equipped with special concentrating reflectors which limit the light to a small area. This rating is usually given for a specified distance in feet. The value of the apparent candlepower depends more upon the reflector than upon the lamp.

**Equivalent Candlepower.** This term is used in referring to lights such as the Moore tube or mercury vapor lamp, the light of which is emitted from a large area rather than from one point. It means that the total light emitted from such a source is equivalent to a point source of the stated mean spherical candle power.

**Maximum Candlepower.** This denotes the maximum intensity of illumination obtained in any direction from any lamp.

**Efficiency of Electric Lamps.** The term efficiency here used is used in a manner differing from the ordinary use of the word. Ordinarily, efficiency is expressed in percentage of 1.00 and the nearer 1.00 the efficiency the more satisfactory is the statement. In illuminating the term denotes the number of watts per candlepower. Thus, an ordinary 16-candlepower old-type, carbon lamp requiring 55 watts would be considered as having an efficiency of about 3.5 watts per candlepower. Used in this way the term is as loose as is the use of the word candlepower without qualification. The efficiency of electric lamps may be properly stated either in lumens per watt at the terminals of the lamp or in watts per mean spherical candlepower.

**Foot Candle.** The foot candle is the common unit of illumination. It is the intensity of illumination produced by a source of light of one candlepower at a distance of one foot from that source, the light falling perpendicularly. In place of foot candle the phrase lumens per square foot is also used. The number of lumens per square foot and the number of foot candles will always be the same.

## Switchboard Holes

At times switches are changed or instruments are removed leaving unsightly holes in a switchboard. A way to overcome this difficulty is as follows: Mix glycerine and litharge so as to make a soft paste, add a small quantity of slate or marble dust, then roughen the interior of the hole to be filled. Next fill the hole with the litharge cement. Let dry and finish and color to match the board.

## Illumination Design

The general purpose of illumination is to enable things to be easily seen. As things are seen by the light reflected from them into the eye, it is necessary to have the lighting units of such number and intensity and so arranged as to make the things it is desired to see most easily seen. To do this must be taken into consideration the effect of illumination on the eye.

# EVERYDAY SCIENCE

## Electrical Appliances Popular in Homes

The use of large electric appliances in the home showed a very heavy increase during 1929.

According to "Electrical Merchandising," there were 158,000 electric ranges, having a total value in excess of \$26,000,000 sold during the year, and the total now in use in the United States is 875,000. It is estimated also by the same authority that the number of homes in the United States having electric service with special rates for electric ranges is 8,500,000.

While there are no accurate figures as to the number of radio sets now in use, the sales during 1929 amounted to 4,200,000 sets, valued at \$525,000,000. There were also sold 69,000,000 radio tubes of all types, having a value of \$172,500,000.

The electrically operated refrigerator for home use is a comparatively new innovation but there were 638,000 sold during 1929, with a total value in excess of \$181,000,000. It is estimated that the number of electric refrigerators now in use in homes is 1,850,000, so that the sales during 1929 constitute almost a third of those sold to date.

Sales of electric clothes washers amounted to 1,019,000, with a total value of \$115,000,000. It is estimated that there are at the present time about 6,585,000 electric washing machines in use.

Total sales of vacuum cleaners amounted to 1,312,000, with a retail value in excess of \$65,000,000. It is estimated that about 8,600,000 vacuum cleaners are in use at the present time.

Sales of ironing machines amounted to 126,000, with a total value of \$9,637,000. It is estimated that there are about 580,000 ironers in use.

Another comparatively recent electrical appliance for the home is the electric water heater, of which there are about 200,000 in use at the present time, 45,000 of which were sold in 1929.

During the same year, 70,500 electric vibrating health machines with a total value in excess of \$4,000,000 were sold, and 250,000 ultra-violet lamps, with a retail value of \$9,500,000.

These constitute the larger and less commonly used electrical appliances. In addition to these there are millions of small appliances for use in the home sold each year.

## Birthplace of Flag Now Heated by Gas

The house in which the first American flag was made, the Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia, has recently succumbed to the march of progress and the old system of heating with open fireplaces has been superseded by modern gas heat.

The Betsy Ross House, on Arch Street in Philadelphia, at the time of the Revolution was an upholstery shop, kept by John Ross, who later was killed fighting for American independence. In May, 1776, Washington and a committee employed Ross' daughter Betsy to make a sample flag containing thirteen stars and thirteen stripes, symbolical of the original thirteen American colonies.

The custodian of this national shrine put in a gas heating system partly on account of the convenience of this type of heating and partly to reduce the fire hazard of a national shrine.

## Cost of Electricity and Cost of Living

At the end of 1929, living costs, as compared with those of 1913, were approximately 70 per cent above prewar levels. The cost of electricity, which forms a small part of the cost of living, however, was 28 per cent below the 1913 level. During 1929 the cost decreased 3 per cent from that of 1928. Based on the purchasing power of money, household rates of electricity in 1929 were only 42 per cent of those in 1913.

Improved methods of generating electricity, through higher efficiency of steam turbines and high-pressure boilers in large plants, have resulted in a reduction in the average amount of coal burned to produce a kilowatt hour of electricity from 3.2 pounds in 1919 to 1.65 pounds in 1929.

At the present time the public utility companies in the United States represent an actual investment slightly in excess of \$11,000,000,000. Of this total, approximately 60 per cent is in equipment necessary to carry the current from the power house to the customers' homes or places of business. This includes transmission and distribution lines and all of the equipment necessary to make electric current fit the customers' needs. Coupled with the cost of money represented by this portion of the investment, there is also the cost of operation and maintenance of lines, etc., and the cost of labor involved in meter reading, collecting, bookkeeping and everything which goes to effect the distribution of electricity after it has been generated.

## New Gas a Substitute for Hydrogen

A new gas for industrial use, which has been named electrolene and is claimed to be better than hydrogen in many industrial applications, is produced by feeding a combination of steam and manufactured gas, or other hydro carbons, into an electric cracking device recently developed. This new gas can be made for about one-tenth of the present cost of hydrogen, and is expected to be of especial value when used in electric furnaces with controllable atmospheres, in such processes as heat treating, brazing, etc., and also an application in the hot cutting of metals.

In the cracking processes to produce the gas, the necessary heat is generated by electricity. The apparatus is neither large nor complicated. The amount of floor space is small and the attention required is not great.

## United States Leads in Use of Electricity

One well informed authority on world development of electric light and power estimates the production of electricity throughout the world to be in the vicinity of 300,000,000,000 kilowatt hours per year, and that the United States produces approximately 41 per cent of the total. This is somewhat lower than previous estimates, which have placed the use of electricity in the United States at approximately one-half the total for the whole world. These figures, however, are based upon the output of public utility plants contributing to the public supply, operated by private, municipal or governmental agencies, and does not take into account a very large amount of electricity which is generated by manufacturers and others for their own use.

Using these latest figures on world production, Germany ranks second with an output of 34,000,000,000 kilowatt hours; Canada third with 18,000,000,000 kilowatt hours; Great Britain and France each produce approximately 16,000,000,000 kilowatt hours.

Although Canada is ranked in third position, slightly ahead of either France or England, this is not alone because of the very large individual use of electricity by the people of Canada, but rather because of the very large consumption of electricity by the pulp and paper industry which supplies so much newsprint paper used in the United States.

It is also estimated that about 8 per cent of the total Canadian production of electric power is exported into the United States.

## Houses Will Be Heated and Cooled by Gas

According to Eugene D. Milener, Industrial Research Representative of the American Gas Association, it will soon be possible, through the aid of gas, operating one piece of machinery, not only to heat the house to 70 degrees during seven or eight months of the cool season, but also, to keep the temperature down to 70 degrees during the hot season, and at relatively small increased expense.

Mr. Milener points out that one of the most important factors in comfort in the home is the amount of humidity. In the winter a lower inside temperature is comfortable when the proper amount of humidity is contained in the air; and likewise in summer, if the amount of humidity is reduced, the comfort is measurably increased.

By means of a gas-fired heater and a silica gel absorption refrigeration unit, not only is the house heated, but the refrigerator is kept cold during the winter; and in the summer, in addition to keeping the refrigerator cold, the same machine, by dehydrating the air and at the same time cooling it, makes possible a constant temperature of clean, pure air through the day.

Mr. Milener estimated that the average modern home of eight rooms would require for heating purposes approximately 400,000 cubic feet of gas annually, and that an additional 40,000 cubic feet of gas would be sufficient to cool the house to 70 degrees during the summer months. These figures, of course, will vary according to the construction and location of each house, but the significant fact is that under any given conditions the house can be kept equally comfortable in summer as in winter, with an expenditure of only one-tenth of the amount of fuel necessary to maintain the temperature in the winter.

The operation of such a plant requires little or no attention, as it is entirely automatic and controlled by means of a thermostat which can be easily set by hand at any desired point.

Such a system contemplates the use of air as a heating and cooling medium rather than steam or hot water. Positive circulation is secured by means of an electrically operated forced-draft fan. The air is filtered before being heated and humidified, so that a constant supply of fresh clean air of the right temperature and humidity is pumped into the rooms.



## SIGHT-AND-SOUND BROADCASTING

By AUSTIN C. LESCARBOURA, Member I. R. E., Member A. I. E. E.

### How the partnership of television and sound broadcasting brings radio talkies into the average home.

**I**MAGINE tuning in a regular radio program on your present radio set and then, going to a second set, tuning in living pictures of the very artists you are hearing! You see the artists as they sing, play or speak, in perfect unison with the loud-speaker rendition. Impossible, fantastic, prophetic? Not at all. There are thousands of homes in which sight-and-sound broadcasting, or radio talkies for want of a more attractive name, are being enjoyed at this very moment. Television, the startling demonstration of yesterday, has become the latest form of home radio entertainment.

Radio talkies, or combined sight and sound broadcasting, is simply a partnership of television and usual sound broadcasting. At the studio end, the artist stands before the television scanner and the microphone. One picks up the image, the other picks up the sound, while one transmitter sends out the pictorial signals on short waves, and a second or regular broadcast transmitter sends out the usual latent sound signals. At the home end, the usual broadcast receiver is tuned to the desired signals, while a television receiver is tuned to the accompanying picture signals. The result is a complete sight and sound presentation of infinitely greater entertainment possibilities than the usual "blind" program with which many of us have already grown bored.

Television stations in Chicago, New York and Boston are now transmitting synchronized sight-and-sound programs which are announced regularly in the newspapers along with the usual sound broadcasting programs. Some employ a broadcast channel for the sound accompaniment, while others make use of a short-wave sound channel. If the short-wave signals closely approximate the lower end of the regular sound broadcasting band, or between 180 and 200 meters, it becomes possible to tune in the signals by means of the usual broadcast receiver, which generally tunes down to about 20 meters below the 200-meter limit. Otherwise, a special or short-wave receiver is necessary to tune in the sound signals.

#### Special Receiver Needed

The television picture signals must be tuned in by a special receiver tuning between 100 and 150 meters, in which band the television stations are now operating, and free from regeneration as a means of building up weak signals. Regeneration introduces serious distortion which is at once apparent in pictorial reception. Fortunately, special television receivers are now available in complete and in kit form, at reasonable prices. These receivers employ sufficient radio-frequency amplifications in place of regeneration, together with practically distortionless audio amplification.

They have ample power output to operate the neon tube of the radiovisor or picture weaving device at full brilliancy. But more about the receiving requirements in our next issue.

The studio end of the present-day television station is of prime interest at this time due to the prominence which television programs now enjoy. The studio has two general types of program material available: first, the direct pick-up subjects, in which artists appear before the television

scanner as well as the microphone in the case of a synchronized sound accompaniment; secondly, the film pick-up subjects, in which standard motion pictures are employed in an ingenious type of scanning mechanism which has the general appearance of a motion picture projector. Instead of throwing the pictures on a screen, however, they are broken down into parallel lines and flashed on a photo-electric cell for translation into electrical values.

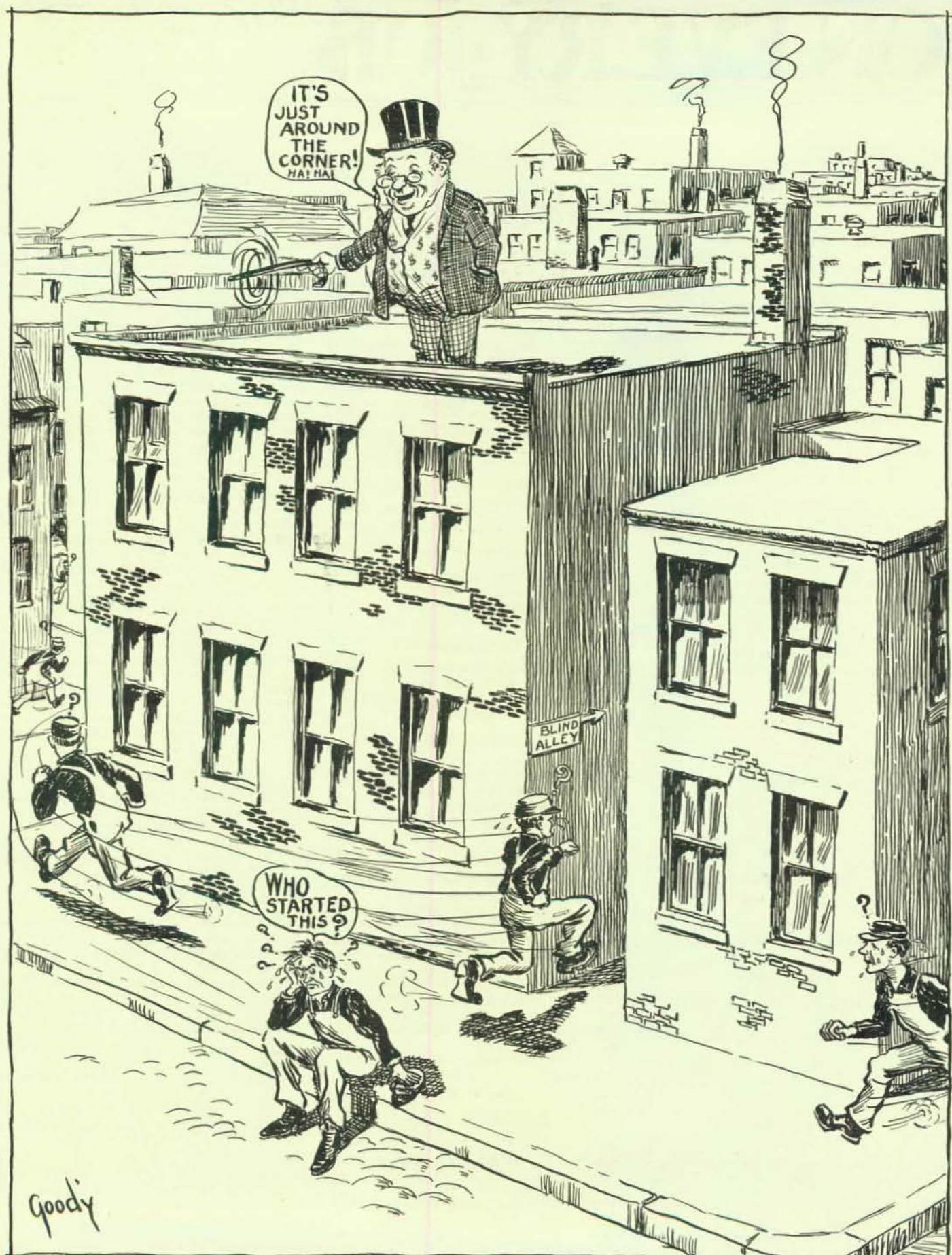
(Continued on page 333)



MISS DOROTHY ALTMAN, PIANIST AND SINGER, SEATED BEFORE THE PHOTO CELLS OF JENKINS TELEVISION STATION W2XCR AND THE MICROPHONE OF RADIO STATION WGBS.

## THE GHOST OF PROSPERITY

Drawn especially for Electrical Workers Journal by Harry S. Goodwin



# ON EVERY JOB

There's a Laugh  
& Two

"I'm going to take a chance on seeing this poem in the JOURNAL or having the satisfaction of knowing it went into a wastebasket at Washington, D. C.," writes Brother Norman Heintzelman, of L. U. No. 107, Grand Rapids:

#### Wirepatchers in Heaven

When we're in St. Peter's lineup  
And he sees our calloused hands,  
Do we get the fire and brimstone,  
Or do we see the promised lands?

What will be the verdict,  
Will he put us in the hole,  
And we resume our labors—  
Just go in and heave the coal?

Maybe we can wire the heavens,  
With a new code as our guide,  
Live up to rules and regulations,  
With St. Peter by our side.

He'll be the one and only inspector,  
And always on every job;  
He will give you time to do good work,  
So you'll have no cause to sob.

We won't worry about depressions,  
Because worry there is sin;  
There'll be lots of work in heaven,  
Because somebody is always moving in.

They won't all be electricians,  
Maybe six or seven—  
That's why we will always work  
Way up there in heaven.

\* \* \*

This conversation between a couple of L. U. No. 134 members was heard on a Chicago street recently by our reporter, who signs himself "Windy City":

#### Hooverizing

"Why, hello there, Bill; I haven't seen you in a coon's age."

"Oh, yeah?"

"Well, how you been, old timer, are you working steady?"

"I have been working Ho-overtime for the last two years."

\* \* \*

#### Retired and "Flu"

Retired King Alfonzo will soon be here,  
Re-tiring "tin cans," installing brakes and gear,

Should circulating rumors prove true;  
I, for one, would neither object nor interfere,  
Providin' he leaves behind that Spanish "flu."

ABE GLICK,  
L. U. No. 3, New York.

\* \* \*

#### Completely Dry!

Professor in Osteology: "And these bones are of the original American camel, millions of years old, discovered in Wyoming."

Student: "The Anti-Saloon League should see that the remains of this grand old pioneer are placed in a suitable national mausoleum."

JOE YARVICE,  
L. U. No. 9.

#### The Aspiring Apprentice

When I sit and try to study, to accumulate some sense, so I'll maybe be somebody whose mind is not so dense—I fuss and squint and ponder over diagrams and such, till I begin to wonder, if I'll e'er amount to much.

These authors use a lingo that would make a lawyer sob, for it doesn't mean a thing to the yahoos on the job. They explain it with a vector, or maybe a co-sine. Then I get mad as Hector, I don't understand their line.

These symbols are a short-cut for what they want to say, to an educated person, but there's ought to be a way for to slip the information to an ordinary guy, short on sophistication and the geometric why.

I know they'll not rewrite it for my especial kind, so if I shouldn't like it and don't want to get behind, I must sit me down and study, as all the fellows have before, if I want to be somebody who knows a little more.

CLAUDE PHIPPS,  
L. U. No. 18, Los Angeles.

\* \* \*

#### A Few Dam Verses

If I were a poet as good  
As Masterson or "The Duke,"  
I'd write a poem, if I could,  
About the world's biggest dam.

#### For Instance

I.-B.-elieve E.-very W.-reman  
Has heard of the Boulder Dam;  
L.-ts B.-enefits, E.-verlasting W.-aterpower,  
Are the gift of the Great "I AM."\*

#### Who Can Continue This Dream?

One night I dreamed of Hoover Dam,  
Great hordes of floaters were there;  
They came to work for Uncle Sam,  
From almost everywhere.

WALTER H. HENDRICK,  
Local No. 7.

\* \* \*

A lady met a government hospital patient hobbling along on crutches.

"Young man," she asked, "what is the trouble? Rheumatism?"

"No, ma'am," replied the patient; "patriotism."—*The Western Christian Advocate*.

\* \* \*

"How did you get that smudge on your face?"

"Well, honey, the car broke down and I had to fix it."

"Since when do you grease your car with red grease?"

\* \* \*

#### Canning the Patter

A barber was much surprised to receive a tip before he had cut his customer's hair.

"Thank you, sir! It isn't many who tip us first," he said.

"That isn't a tip," snapped the man in the chair. "That's hush money."

\*Exodus 3:14.

This is a true happening in a Maryland county in the recent campaign:

#### The Wrong Kind of a Joke

The political candidate was full of old jokes and stories as he spoke to the crowd at the rally. Illustrating a point, he said:

"And that reminds me of a story. A book agent was anxious to sell a set of encyclopedias to a family who had only one child, a small boy. 'Don't you want your boy to get a good education—to grow up to be a smart man?' she reiterated. The father of the family grunted and said, 'No, I don't want him to get an education or to be smart. I want him to be dumb so he can be a bricklayer and get \$15 a day!'"

And in the menacing silence that followed this so-called joke the political speaker remembered, too late, that the audience was predominantly composed of building trades workers, their wives and families. And many of the men were out of work!

Maybe we'll get a rise out of the Duke with this story from Joe Yarvice, of Local No. 9 and we want to thank Joe for the batch of stories and cracks he sent us—all home made stuff, he says.

#### Natural For the Scotch

Airport Instructor (to some prospective customers): "We all understand that the cheapest form of aviation is motorless gliding, in which the Germans are doing pioneer work."

Bright Lad: "The Germans may have started it, but we look for the Scotch to carry it to its final perfection."

#### To the Duke

I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me,  
I'd like to be the help that you have always been glad to be,  
I'd like to mean as much to you each minute of the day,  
As you have meant, friend of mine, along my weary way.

I'd like to do the big things and the splendid things for you,  
And brush the gray from out your skies and make them always blue.

I'd like to say the kind words I so often have heard,  
And feel that I could rouse your soul, the way that mine you have stirred.

I'd like to make you feel as rich as I, who travel on,  
Undaunted in the darkest hour with you, Duke, old boy, to lean upon.  
I'm wishing at this writing time that I could but repay  
A portion of the gladness you have strewn along my way.

And could I have one wish this year, this only would it be,  
That I could be the sort of friend that you have been to me.

TOM MEECH,  
L. U. No. 595.



# CORRESPONDENCE

## L. U. NO. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Editor:

Work in St. Louis as far as the electrical workers are concerned has been vitally affected by the depression, for the new work is of such small consequence that only a minimum of workers can be taken care of. But we are hopeful for it seems that the depression has hit rock bottom and there is no other way but for it to start its upward climb. Unfortunately this time the incline is rather steep and only by the use of an exorbitant amount of money in building and new enterprises can the wheels of progress be started. If we could only persuade our financiers that the bogeyman was gone and that they might again come out into the open we would be sitting pretty for another five or maybe 10 years.

ROBERT B. MILLER.

## L. U. NO. 7, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Editor:

Well, another month has gone and we are still waiting for the change to come, but I guess we will wait in vain.

Everything is up in the air nowadays, for the air has been full of planes doing all kinds of stunts over our heads and the insurance men scaring you stiff trying to sell you airplane damage insurance, just to make the people more worried over their home, for it is bad enough not being able to work to keep up your little home without worrying about it being wrecked by airplane or other air contrivance.

But still we had some of the boys go to work on the Bowles Airport in Springfield, lighting up the field around the airport, and we also had the honor of having one of our Brothers, Melvin Hill, of West Springfield, who is a member of the Springfield Radio Association, take part in the Air Armada maneuvers at Bowles field in Agawam. It might be noted here that the members of the Springfield Radio Association are working solely in the interest of radio and public service and will receive no remuneration whatever for their services.

But still out of 20 members of the association, we have only one member of Local No. 7. It doesn't seem as if the Brothers are getting interested in radio, for with all the opportunity we don't take advantage of it, but I hope it won't be far away before we have a radio club in our own local, for it surely is coming to it. It seems funny when your own radio goes on the blink you have to call in one of those radioticians and they charge you three dollars an hour.

That surely was a nice article Brother Herman H. Armbuster, from our sister local in Springfield, Ill., had in the May JOURNAL. He hit the nail on the head and I will try to answer him as I see it in regards to the license question. We in Springfield seem to benefit by it a whole lot, for you can look in the book and see if the man doing electrical work is a licensed man, and it seems to give our business manager something to work on, and if we are successful in having a field agent in Springfield when we want him to look over some of the poor work done by some of these non-union contractors and

## READ

Radio progress in Chicago, by L. U. No. 134.

Power politics in Los Angeles, by L. U. No. 18.

How one utility cuts wages, by L. U. No. 125.

Co-operative progress in Jacksonville, by L. U. No. 177.

Unique conditions in Chicago, by L. U. No. 713.

Telephone depredations, by L. U. No. 8.

About Building Trades Council withdrawal, by L. U. No. 427.

A pleasant sports event, by L. U. No. 41.

Common sense and the depression, by L. U. No. 86.

Things to be thankful for, by L. U. No. 353.

These letters read like more.

Their honest analysis of local conditions marks them as valuable.

63,300 telephones in use here at present. Can anyone figure how refunds for a seven-year period to that many subscribers can come out of the amount of the bond posted? I expect that while the valuation question is being argued between the company and the commission, another "temporary" increase will be permitted as there has been some effort made to get another increase recently. It looks to me as if that \$50,000 was one of the best paying investments the telephone company ever had.

In addition I will say that there is not much new to report on here except that we have established a five-day week effective June 1, 1931. This will mean a half day's pay less to those employed, but will provide work for a few more men.

We surely hope to see prosperity coming around that corner soon.

HARRY B. VAN FLEET.

## L. U. NO. 12, PUEBLO, COLO.

Editor:

Pueblo is still here but very quiet, but hopeful as ever, with nothing to look forward to. Our boys are losing a lot of time, now when we should be busier than at any season of the year.

One item we would like to broadcast to our former Brothers in the "Golden West" is that we returned the call of our sister local at Colorado Springs. About 16 of Pueblo's local and auxiliary went up to the Springs and spent a very pleasant evening trying to play cards (you know; you lay down a good card and then somebody puts down a better one and you roll up a score that is too low to get anywhere near the top and just high to miss the booby prize). But after all the hands had been played they sat us down to a banquet that was a delightful surprise and as that is one game at which we have not yet gotten out of practice we all scored high.

Brothers Haggerty and Brennan were injured in an auto wreck three weeks ago. Pat was in the hospital for two weeks but is still laid up at home. He had three ribs broken and a lot of cuts and bruises. Brennan was not seriously injured. We all hope that Pat will have a speedy recovery to normal again.

WILL FRENCH.

## L. U. NO. 18, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Editor:

Since my last effort many and varied have been the activities of Local No. 18, to wit:

That of continuing our drive for additional members, by appointing an organizing committee which, to the best of my knowledge, is functioning 100 per cent.

Then there was that apparent detail of selecting a political committee whose sole duty was to scrutinize the capabilities and possibilities of various candidates who presented themselves for endorsement to carry on the business in the city administration under the head of councilmen and from all indications and after election results we had a truly wonderful body of men in the capacity of the political committee.

Out of 14 endorsements in the primary

have their licenses taken away it would make the having of state license a lot stronger. So, if you intend to have a state license, make sure you have a field agent nearby.

I, for one, am in favor of your trying for a state license for electricians, so let's hope this will answer your question. I am hoping you will receive different replies from some of the locals in New England, for I surely would like to know, myself, how our sister locals in New England are enjoying the state license law.

E. MULLARKEY.

## L. U. NO. 8, TOLEDO, OHIO

Editor:

I was reading that article in last month's WORKER concerning displacement of employees by automatic telephones in New York. We no doubt have a similar situation here, although I have not seen any figures to prove it. I notice that whenever the question is raised, the local telephone officials come out in the newspapers and most emphatically deny that any employees have been eliminated by automatic phones, explaining that these employees are absorbed elsewhere in the system.

I remember that about seven years ago the company here filed application with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio for an increase in rates. They finally got the commission to agree to let them increase the rates temporarily while the commission was investigating the case to see if the increase was justified. The company posted a bond of \$50,000 to be used for refunds in the event that the commission decided not to grant the permanent increase. The "temporary" rate increase has been in effect for seven years now and the commission has just recently decided that the telephone company's valuation was excessive, but no refunds have been made as yet. A recent report states that there are

we were fortunate (if that is the correct word) in electing two men and placing an additional nine on the ballot for the run-off in June.

That in itself perhaps does not exactly explain our condition or even hint as to why we should bother as to "who is who" in the Los Angeles City Council but here is the reason:

Los Angeles, as many know, has in itself a department known as the department of water and power. This particular department has been the recipient of many a hard and unwarranted "belt" from the well-known powers that be, or as Bainbridge Colby so aptly refers to—the power trust—of which the Southern California Edison Company, the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation and the Southern Counties Gas are no little part.

The department of water and power and especially the power department in charge of Mr. E. F. Scattergood, chief electrical engineer, has been the objective that this so-called power trust has had in view.

A majority of councilmen can approve or reject commissioners favorable or otherwise to this particular enterprise. These are known as the board of water and power commissioners and comprise five members. The duty of these commissioners is to run the department of water and power and I may add that the water department items handled by this commission are so minor that it leads one to believe that they were installed for the sole purpose of arranging the destinies of the power department—and from all indications at the present time, there is some need for improvement, and as I have said, a majority of councilmen could select the men to serve on this commission and as councilmen are elected by popular vote it was the duty of the membership of Local No. 18, with some 800 men employed by the power department, to see to it that the councilmen elected were favorable to municipal ownership, or at least not adverse to its being.

That is one reason why we have been truly busy in arranging details that would consolidate a large number of votes in favor of a particular candidate.

That is why we mailed questionnaires out to the various prospective candidates and after reading their answers, called them into our office to personally interview them on the subject of water and power.

When this edition reaches Los Angeles we will have elected councilmen to serve the city for the next two years, meaning until July 1, 1933. In this interim a contract between the power bureau and the Southern California Edison Company will have expired and will necessarily have to be renewed or other arrangements made to insure the populace of Los Angeles our unlimited supply of cheap electrical energy.

At a future election there will be a bond issue to the total amount of \$15,300,000, of which \$7,000,000 is to be used to construct a steam plant at an advantageous point. This steam plant will pick up the load now being supplied by contract from the Edison Company and which expires June 30, 1932.

It may be needless to add, these bonds will be fought by the combined energy of the entire west coast representatives of the power trust, a few of which I have already mentioned. One of the leading factors, or the central body is the Southern California Edison Company.

Our work, meaning the membership of Local No. 18, is to assist the willing citizens to further their interest by voting the bonds which will mean the expansion of the power department and eventually reduce electrical bills to below the present rate of 4.8 cents a kilowatt hour for the first 35 kilowatt

## Research, Education and Organization

By H. L. BLANCHARD, L. U. No. 7.

It would seem to the writer that the major portion of the working public of today could be compared to a ship adrift at sea without a rudder. Too little attention is being given to the ultimate destination and too little effort is being exerted to ascertain the causes for, or to find the remedies which will lead us out of our present situation.

That this state of affairs can be remedied, I firmly believe, and that the solution may be found through research, education and organization.

Just as the causes must be found before the disease is remedied, so must the sources of the evils of our present day system of economics be searched out before we can prescribe a remedy. This can be accomplished only through research, that laboratory of the statistical field.

A step has been taken in the right direction by our International Office in the institution of a Research Department, and I firmly believe that they will go far to alleviate the present day conditions.

What research will reveal it is difficult to foretell, but it seems that with a thorough searching out, radical changes from the present system can be looked for, as it is a self evident fact that our present standard is passe and not applicable to the conditions now existing.

Following research must come the education of those whom the desired, improved standard has been created to benefit. The results and findings of this research must be so clearly set forth that the average layman can readily sense their import, or that research will have been in vain.

In order that the greatest possible good be accomplished, the greatest number possible must be reached.

This must be accomplished by organization. With these objectives attained will come the realization of that power now dormant in the working class, and that awakened power can be directed into channels where the greatest good can be accomplished.

Rather a large order, but one that can and will be filled.

hours and 2.5 cents for the next 140 kilowatt hours and commercial rates even lower—and as has been advertised, all goes to strengthen industry locally, etc.

I could go on and quote the advantage of municipally owned departments when properly managed, such as the department of water and power, but suffice to say and no doubt the majority agree they pay more money, and your work is altogether under better conditions.

There is a difference between the linemen working for the private corporations and those working for the department of \$1.20 a day, doing the same identical work and in many cases on the same pole, due to the joint construction; that is only the minimum difference, the maximum would surprise you. It did me. There are other utilities employing linemen, two railway companies, a telephone company and a few major oil companies. All these I refer to are within the city limits, and the personnel involved are eligible to membership in our local. It is these men the organizing committee is endeavoring to convince of the wisdom of becoming members and assisting in creating better conditions locally. So if the department of water and power can operate successfully on a higher standard of wages there is no apparent reason why these private utilities can not pay more.

RAY MANGAN.

### L. U. NO. 28, BALTIMORE, MD.

Editor:

The saddest bit of news that has come to our attention is that of the sudden and early demise of that popular and youthful International Vice President, Abe Wilson. The news struck like a thunderbolt from a clear sky. It was bewildering. Here was a real and ardent believer in the cause of organized labor, who labored in one of the most difficult sections of the country, suddenly gone from our midst.

All who have known Abe realize that anything we might pen in praise of so popular a man is futile, as mere words cannot begin to extol the character of so unselfish and conscientious a man. The sufferings and injustices inflicted on the worker so appalled him and impressed him so deeply that one can almost say these were the direct cause of his death.

Just recovering from a period of illness or nervous breakdown, caused by excessive labor and tremendous responsibilities on such youthful shoulders, Abe Wilson, confronted with the same routine after convalescence, ended it all.

The note penned by him and left to his father in which he said, "I got tired and have gone for a rest. It is still a great life and a fine old world with a lot of wonderful people in it." This is so characteristic of the man, and in these few words he speaks volumes. It is so pathetic and saddening to think that a man in his early years should suddenly leave us when there was so much in store for him.

We note where the International Office makes mention of the intention of establishing an office known as "Director of Public Relations," also a "Director of Education." In a short time the International Office will have the distinction of having a cabinet of its own, similar to the one Uncle Sam has. Well, the office is really going modern.

The article written on Boulder Dam was enlightening and proves once again the lack of consideration by government officials for the laborer. In short, the dam project is a colossal disappointment from the labor standpoint. A real monument being erected without once considering the human factor used in its construction. Such is the power of greed and profiteers in human misery.

We note a great deal of space now being taken up by letters from the various auxiliaries. They do make interesting reading and give one an insight as to the doings and activities of the lady aids of the wire twisters.

In our opinion, it is a healthy condition when the women take so vital an interest in affairs of the auxiliaries, as it is only a short step from the locals themselves.

We can report the fact that Brother Henry Broening, president of the Baltimore Federation of Labor, has been elected, by unanimous vote, to the office of president of the Maryland State and District of Columbia Federation of Labor. All we can say is, a good man in a good place, wisely chosen. Need we say more?

R. S. ROSEMAN.

#### L. U. NO. 41, BUFFALO, N. Y.

Editor:

May I diverge from the usual contents of our letters regarding conditions in this locality and tell of a purely sport incident? The American Bowling Congress, which was held in Buffalo, N. Y., February 27 to April 6, solicited labor organizations and contractors in the building industry to place teams in this meet. Local No. 41 entered two teams, with William P. Fisher and Arthur Fisher as captains. At the time of the meet Brother Fisher, the business manager, was detained out of the city, so his assistant, Roy Leff, ably handled the situation. Team No. 2, Roy Leff acting captain, having Harry Thompson, a veteran bowler, got enough pins for seven strikes, winning the seventh prize in the building trades division. Our mutual friends, Plumbers' Local No. 36, scored 2449, which followed Team No. 2 in the order of receiving prizes.

Electrical Workers' Local No. 41, Team 1:

Knoepf	199	162	173
Nelson	154	145	160
Rudroff	116	—	148
Brennan	133	126	158
Oestrich	137	132	136
Fisher, Arthur	—	110	—
Total—	2189.		

Electrical Workers' Local No. 41, Team 2:

Bauer	191	140	157
Gaupp	193	145	154
Thompson	197	138	—
Adrian	156	171	143
Ulrich	173	155	180
Leff	—	—	161
Total—	2454.		

Now for a word or two about shop: The lighting and signal arrangement at the Bowling Congress were installed by members of our local. A description of this is given in the Popular Science Monthly—June issue. International Representative E. J. Davis paid us a visit last month and gave us some timely advice regarding financing for local unions in the future.

O. C. H.

#### L. U. NO. 48, PORTLAND, OREG.

Editor:

The writer having been threatened with great bodily injury if there is not a letter in the WORKER, decides to get busy. Our main purpose now is to enlighten some of our readers concerning this great "On to Oregon" movement which seems to be somewhat misunderstood.

It seems as though the erroneous impression is being given that Oregon is just being settled and there is so much work that a young army is needed to build the "cities"—particularly the vision in building (mostly vision).

It is very true that we have a wonderful climate, and verily it is a great place in which to live. Unfortunately, however, Ore-

gon is no different in one major respect than any other place. The people here, strange to say, are faced with the same economic problem of making a living as confronts other people in other places.

Here are a few facts, harsh and cold as they may be. Local Union No. 48 is at the present time about 60 per cent below normal with no immediate relief in sight. There has been a two per cent assessment placed on the members who are making more than \$50 per month. This should be self-explanatory.

We hear of 27-story buildings and \$3,000,000 hotels to be constructed, but so far that is some more "vision."

To those industries and manufacturing plants in need of trained and competent workers we extend open arms, but to anyone about to be misled by the "On to Oregon" propaganda, we, in all kindness, give a warning.

HARRY W. DALBY.

#### L. U. NO. 53, KANSAS CITY, MO.

Editor:

Local No. 53 seems to be faring pretty well during the present depression. Most of the members are steadily employed, thanks to the municipal job, and thanks to its management and board of control, who had the good judgment to start this work when things were at their worst. They started a \$1,000,000 improvement when most places were cutting right and left, and this improvement is being installed entirely by union labor. If the other plants around the country had done likewise there would have been no depression.

The writer believes that the great body of workers should know something of the municipally owned plant of Kansas City, Kans. There is a good-sized movement started all over the United States in favor of municipal ownership. The private utilities, by their constant raising of rates, have the people up in arms and it behooves the members of the Brotherhood to read up on what the municipal plant can do and will do if properly managed. We hear so much adverse criticism put out by the press (so friendly to the utilities) that it will be good to hear what a municipal plant can do.

The city of Kansas City, Kans., has a population of 122,000, mostly working people of the industrial mixed type. About 19 years ago the city took over the water and light plant and has operated them successfully since. It has grown, with the city, from a 500-kilowatt plant to a 29,000-kilowatt plant, and a new 10,000-kilowatt plant is being installed now to meet the growing demand. It has spread its lines to all parts of the city to give the people service; it serves the industries and business places with uninterrupted service. The rates are the lowest of any city of its size in the country. Domestic consumers can use current for all household appliances and even cook with it without fearing a stroke when they get their bill.

#### ATTENTION, SCRIBES

It will convenience this office very much if all copy for the July issue, be in our hands by June 24—one week earlier than usual.

This year it was instrumental in reducing the tax levy 12 cents by cutting the cost of street lighting (and this is a well-lighted city, both in arc circuits and ornamentals). It furnishes the school board with current and water at a special rate. It is a combined water and light plant and is kept up to date in every way. The present \$1,000,000 improvement is being installed out of the earnings of the plant. This improvement will put considerable economy in the operation of the plant and will, of course, increase the earnings which will be passed on to the people who own the plant.

It is controlled by a board of five high-class business men who give their services to the citizens for \$100 a year. They, in turn, appoint the management who looks after all the business of the departments. The wages paid by this plant, compared with private plants and other industries, are about 25 per cent higher and working conditions are A No. 1.

The members of Local No. 53 have dealt with the present management for about 15 years without any trouble. Our grievances are taken up through the grievance committee and are settled at once to the satisfaction of all. We believe this is a record to be proud of, both from the union side and the management side. Lots of things have taken place in the labor market in the last 15 years and Local No. 53 has had its ups and downs, but if it had not been for the municipal job and its fair management we fear we would have been downed.

We could write a lot more on municipal ownership and its value to the people but you might think we were tooting our horn too much. We would like to hear through the WORKER from some other municipal plant how you have fared under the idea which is bound to spread.

T. McGURN.

#### L. U. NO. 86, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Editor:

Wages—up or down?

One cannot pick up a newspaper or news magazine today without seeing articles pertinent to the depression. This has been true since the latter part of 1929.

At the beginning of this depression the cause was attributed to a "speculative crisis" and this had brought on a recession of business. In the early part of the following year the "hue and cry" was that the depression was just "psychological" and that a "light-hearted" attitude of our minds would bring about a recovery. Then in the summer we heard a lot about the theory of "excess inventory," that inventories were being exhausted and this fact alone would be the means of recovery. This belief was soon followed by a "gold scarcity" theory. In the fall of the year "overproduction" was given as the "true" cause of the depression. Now we have a new theory—"internal maladjustments."

Among a large list of "adjustments" which are supposed to take place is the "adjustment" of wages, not only in the building trades but all down the line.

When Hoover called the conference together a few months back to talk over ways and means of relieving this depression, all the parties concerned agreed that the present level of wages should be maintained and they all subscribed to that policy.

They went back to their respective businesses and then, with a few exceptions, the wages of the workers, from Maine to California, were slashed. Either the wages were slashed with the same hours prevailing, or the hourly rates remained the same but the hours were reduced, which amounted to the

same thing, thereby decreasing the purchasing power of the worker.

Nearly all students of this depression and the large employers of labor publicly say that "this is only one of those business cycles which the business world has passed through successfully many times before."

This "business cycle" is not like those of the past, for the reason that heretofore we never had the overwhelming problem of labor-saving machinery to contend with.

In my April article in the WORKER I explained how this "machine age" started in 1873 and had continued down to the present time. We also have the "efficiency" of the worker to consider. Statistics from the U. S. government show that from 1890 to 1920 the "increase of productivity" of the worker increased but 11 per cent, while from 1920 to 1930 the increase was 53 per cent. For example: If it took 100 men to do a certain piece of work prior to 1920 it would take only 65.3 men to perform that same amount of work now. Practically every third man can be eliminated from industry.

Now we all know that it is man's God-given right to live and work. We cannot take that third man out and line him up before a firing squad because there is no work for him. We must make work for him. If the employers of labor will not voluntarily reduce the hours of labor all down the line and maintain the present wage level, then the federal government must enact a law compelling them to do so. Only by so doing can that third man be employed.

To revert to hand labor (discarding the machines, as some advocate) is to go backwards, and we cannot do that. The machines are here to stay. They were meant to lower man's hours of labor and to give him more leisure to enjoy those things that he produces and not to make a serf of him.

To get back to the question of wages, there seems to be any number of leaders of industry who openly advocate the upholding of wages, but those who advocate the lowering of wages are greatly in the minority, yet the fact remains that, according to the U. S. Department of Labor, 13,000 manufacturing concerns showed a marked gain in the number of wage reductions during the latter half of 1930. The downward trend of wage reductions was still more pronounced in the first quarter of 1931, with 903 concerns reporting wage reductions affecting 126,103 workers, the cut averaging 10 per cent.

The average person reading of the deflation of commodities believes that this will reduce the "real" cost of living. Deflation does not reduce the real cost of living. It will reduce the dollar cost but the dollar income is reduced faster still. Low prices are no help when the currency is deflated and basic production is reduced to 30 per cent, as at the present time.

I would say that our social and capitalistic system is fundamentally wrong if, after two years of depression, the leaders of these systems cannot see the proper way out.

CARLETON E. MEADE.

#### L. U. NO. 103, BOSTON, MASS.

Editor:

After a siege of several months Local No. 103 is glad to report Brother Martin T. Joyce is home from the hospital. However, it will be some time before he is back in the harness. All the boys send their regards and look ahead to seeing him again in their midst.

The Electrical Workers Credit Union has certainly functioned to the advantage of a large number of Brothers during this time of loaf and wait, and if the working Brothers would only come out and buy a share or two it could do a lot more good, not wholly for

the fellow who needs a loan but the fellow buying the share for this is just the same as putting a little in the bank for the rainy day and judging from the conditions we have witnessed, all the rainy days are not over just yet. I don't intend to start grape hanging, so will close before I get going. You may be sure of one thing: if prosperity ever visits this place again I shall feel more like writing, but somehow I have a little personal depression and just don't feel like writing. This depression stuff is contagious, of this I am sure.

Goody.

#### L. U. NO. 106, JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

Editor:

We wish to be counted "among those present," even though there is not much news. Work around here is very bad and no prospects of any in the very near future.

Big headlines in the paper this morning, "Niagara Power Sells Out to City-Owned Electric Light Company." That ends the power competition in this city.

The old war horse, Brother Frank J. Kruger, is back on the job again, looking better than he has in some time past.

Next month will be nomination and election of officers and, as this local is going through a change for the better, we are liable to have some new officers conducting the local affairs.

International Vice President Arthur Bennett was sent in here by the International Office to clean up a situation that has been a thorn in our side for several years. He certainly was the right man for the job. We are well satisfied with his work, and we will be glad to have him come in here when the Chautauqua Motor Repair Company is ready to talk turkey. They are certainly sick of the incompetent men which they now have, but pride holds them back.

Axel Lunberg is a traitor (scab) to us. The executive board took his card from him and assessed him \$250.

A committee of five from this local attended a meeting of Local No. 593, Dunkirk, N. Y., Tuesday evening, May 26, and found them functioning, but they certainly need advice and help. If they can have a good, live organizer to work with them they will be able to get somewhere. They had an organizer a year or two ago and they claim he did them more harm than good. Local No. 106 is very desirous of having that end of the county cleaned up. If not it will have a tendency to break down our conditions in Jamestown. There are several big jobs contemplated in the course of a year for them, so it is very essential that they organize and get on their feet before hand. Here is hoping Local No. 593 gets their request.

Will pull the switch now, as this may be the last letter I will ever write for the JOURNAL. Wishing all the Brothers every success, I remain.

W. R. M.

#### L. U. NO. 108, TAMPA, FLA.

Editor:

Although there are many things I would like to talk about at this time I cannot put my heart into a newsy letter. The great shock which we have experienced through the loss of our Brother Wilson has excluded all other thought. However, I would like to say a few words about our departed pal which I feel is justified at this time.

It was my pleasure to be with him almost constantly during the three weeks preceding the illness that overtook him and resulted in his leaving us.

We worked incessantly both night and

day in an effort to bring about better conditions in Tampa and Brother Wilson gave his every minute to intensive campaign work. It required real tenacity of purpose such as is seldom seen, to follow up the work in the manner that seemed to be characteristic of all of our great leaders.

I remonstrated with him at several times suggesting to him that he should indulge in some form of relaxation but he always replied that his only pleasure was in planning for the next move. He always took a walk before retiring on which I accompanied him at times and one would have to have accompanied him to realize the energy that was held in leash. I doubt if he could have told on the return where we had been or what we saw. He was a great counselor and showed the results of intensive study of the subject of his work. He had an ambition to accomplish all that was possible in the shortest of time but without passing up any detail no matter how small or how apparently unimportant.

Without doubt he exceeded his physical ability which resulted in the inevitable crash of the structure which housed a fertile brain that would have been invaluable in the years to come.

As a counselor he rendered us great assistance showing us our shortcomings and always offering a solution of the many problems which confronted us and Local No. 108 will sorely miss his able support.

R. H. SMITH.

#### L. U. NO. 125, PORTLAND, OREG.

Editor:

"'The time has come,' the walrus said,  
'To talk of many things;  
Of shoes and ships and sealing wax,  
And cabbages and kings.'

As if talking about things will do any good. For instance: The Portland General Electric Company, which employs a large majority of the members of Local Union No. 125, has given us due, formal and sufficient notice that they desire to open up our agreement on July 1, next, for the purpose of a 10 per cent reduction in all wage scales. The company, a subsidiary of the Central Public Service Company, has already made a 10 per cent reduction in pay on all employees not covered by union agreements, effective May 1. They announced a 10 per cent cut for the street railway employees, but that union took the question before an arbitration board, and the board has just made an award of 7½ per cent reduction in pay, retroactive to May 1. We were given notice on May 1, but due to a 60-day clause in our agreement, action cannot be taken by the company until July 1.

Local No. 125 has placed the matter in the hands of its executive board with full power to act, with instruction to resist a wage cut by every legal means. The executive board has turned the negotiations over entirely to International Representative J. Scott Milne and Business Manager R. I. Clayton. At this writing, after several meetings between the committee and the president of the company, we are waiting for submission of data on the part of the company justifying their demand for a wage cut. As there seems to be some delay in this submission, we assume that the company is having difficulty in making a reasonable excuse.

The reason set forth for the purposed wage cut is the extreme necessity for curtailing operating expenses, and the desire of the company to keep as many men as possible employed—in other words, we are told that the company must either reduce the

pay or discharge a great many men. This, after the crews have already been cut down to the seeming minimum, and a great proportion of the men working only four or five days per week.

The more I think of the idea of cutting wages to keep men on the pay roll, the less I think of it. Local No. 125 accepted a 10 per cent pay cut under similar conditions some 10 or 11 years ago, with the understanding that as business improved wages would be increased. It took several long years and a very expensive arbitration hearing to get them back to their previous level. Men were laid off as frequently as, and put back to work no more rapidly than the company's demand for work necessitated—apparently without reference to the wage scale. And it will doubtless be so again. If they need men, they will put them to work. If they can get along without them, as a general rule, they will lay them off, whether the wages are 10 per cent more or less. The difference is that, with the higher scale maintained, the men will profit by fair wages as industry picks up, and conditions will improve more rapidly, instead of a dragging and expensive struggle to restore fair wages after a cut, and the loss of pay in the meantime.

So much for cabbages—now as regards kings:

"Another thing that burns me up" (quoting from a prominent official of Local No. 125) "is losing the work on those radio towers."

A local broadcasting station is putting in a new plant, just out of town, with two 300-foot towers to support the aerial. Learning some time ago, that this was to be done, our business manager, assisted by Representative Milne, at once took steps to secure the work for our members. To make sure of this, the estimates on the labor were made and guaranteed to a contracting firm which is very favorable to our local, and they were persuaded to bid on the job, which they would not otherwise have done. (Incidentally, that is real business management.) The firm, which had agreed to use our members on the job, received the contract and work was begun. So was trouble! The ironworkers had their eye also on those two towers, and the local building trades council went to our contractor and demanded that he put ironworkers on the steel work.

On March 24 (note the date), Brother Clayton wrote to Brother Broach outlining the situation and asking for a decision from President Green of the A. F. of L., on the jurisdiction. Brother Broach turned the matter over to his "grunt" (again quoting from a Local No. 125 official), who wrote Brother Clayton at some length, assuring him that as the towers were for electrical purposes exclusively they belonged to us (which we knew in the first place, or we wouldn't have gotten into the mess), and urging him to protect our jurisdiction at all costs (or words to that effect). The local building trades council wired to the Building Trades Department of the A. F. of L., asking for jurisdiction, and, of course, as building tradesmen to building tradesmen, they gave it to the ironworkers. Well, the argument carried on for six weeks, we hoping to get official backing, the ironworkers flaunting their building trades telegram, the broadcasting company wanting their towers built, and the poor contractor between the devil and the deep, deep sea. How deep you can realize when I tell you that the building trades intimated to him that they would take their men off another, and much larger, job unless he put ironworkers on the towers—and he had promised to use electrical workers. Also he is a real union contractor.

## Union Label

The following Hirsch-Weis products, Portland, Oreg., bear the label of the United Garment Workers of America:

- Overalls of all kinds.
- Corduroy pants.
- Blazier blouse.
- Mackinaw coats.
- Raintest garments, as pants, logger coats.
- Heavy flannel logger coats.
- Flannel shirts.
- All-in-one garments.
- Infants' vests (pinless).
- Breeches.
- Khaki pants.

Now what would you do in a case like that? The contractor held up the work for two weeks. Then the broadcasting company told him in effect to get busy or forfeit his contract. Brother Clayton sent a frantic wire to the International Office and received a reply—"hold jurisdiction—I am taking the matter up with President Green." Next day the ironworkers went to work on the towers.

Of course, the building of those two towers was only a couple of weeks' work (and what's two weeks' work to linemen working four or five days a week, or not at all?). But there are to be some more towers built in the near future for one of the local power companies. And out here where we make our juice in the mountains and pack it a long way, there are going to be some steel tower transmission lines constructed. All (perhaps) by ironworkers. From that it is only a step to switch racks, out-door substation, etc. Moreover, since steel cored transmission cable is coming more and more into use, I suppose the ironworkers will soon claim jurisdiction over that and start stringing the conductor. And I'm not kidding the motorman either. Out here where the timber is tall, we are fond of the expression, "to the man up a tree." From that vantage point it would seem that it had been better had that last wire been worded, "I have taken," instead of "am taking" after a lapse of nearly two months. Surely hope that, like vaccination, after it does "take" it will serve to ward off further infection.

N. B.—Quotations not from business manager.

Oh, yes—sealing wax!

I have before me the May, 1931, issue of "The Railway Clerk," official journal of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. It was handed to me by Brother Clayton with a recommendation to read, "The Responsibility of Organized Labor," a feature editorial. I have read it. I'd like to quote from it, but my space will not permit. Mr. Editor, if we were the layout man or the proof reader, or the devil, or whoever it is in a printing office that "stops the press" and tells the Editor "where to head in at," we would lift that article entire and publish it in our JOURNAL. It's worth it, and I trust you will take this tip and look it up.

DALE B. SIGLER.

Editor's Note:

We welcome criticism—but a little honesty and decency should be shown. The strength of this International is only the strength of its local unions.

The facts are: Clayton's letter of March 18 only asked about agreements and decisions that did not exist. He wrote no letter on

March 24. He wrote on April 22—35 days later—saying the contract was given to a fair electrical contractor.

May 20—28 days later—Clayton wired that the job was ready to start. Two days later he said: "Iron workers are building the towers." (The press secretary states the work was begun by electrical workers.)

Our men were in possession of the work. The business manager apparently was "too proud to fight"—or too weak—or he "did not choose to fight" the iron workers. So he peacefully allowed his members to be chased off their own work.

It is easy to cover up one's own cowardice and failure by blaming others.

## L. U. NO. 134, CHICAGO, ILL.

Editor:

For over a year the International Office has been working on the problem of organizing the radio men in Chicago. Mr. McLean, who so successfully organized St. Louis and New York, came in and worked for months with the aid of various local men, prominent among whom were John O'Hara and your humble writer. Many "feeling out" meetings were called to ascertain the attitude of the radio men and the first regular meeting did not come about until January 30, 1931. The officers chosen at this meeting were tentatively so. But, reviewing the minutes of the organization, we find that by February 20 meeting, the decision was made unanimously by the general meeting that all incumbent officers retain their posts until the first meeting in January, 1932.

The radio men of Chicago call their organization the A. T. R. Division, Local No. 134, I. B. E. W., which, translated from the Scandinavian or what have you, means: the Audio, Television and Radio Engineers' Division of Local No. 134, and, of course, you know what I. B. E. W. means.

More than 100 men, representing every station in Chicago except one, are members of the A. T. R., Local No. 134, and now are staging a mammoth stag for the latter part of June with a committee headed by your humble scribe. This will be in the nature of a get-together party and broadcasting radio engineering chiefs and executives will be invited.

The boys have attempted nothing of the spectacular in their organization. That is not the new *modus operandi* in organized labor circles. It is not necessary. But, slowly but surely conditions are being improved and the organization is more and more perfected as time goes along. We, therefore, feel confident that the A. T. R. Division, Local No. 134, will always reflect credit on the mother organization.

While it is not considered such good taste in polite circles to talk about oneself yet I think that you ought to know the reason for the dryness of this report. I am going to plunge in the dangerous sea of matrimony on June 6 and I can't get my mind entirely off that situation. I know you'll excuse it.

It has been stated on good authority that Carlson, of WLS, is applying for a patent on a new union label marker for all carrier waves and further, that at the celebrated Prairie Farmer Station he always keeps a good stock of well-assorted electrons on hand to take care of the trade. John O'Hara, our chairman, is one of the best-liked sports announcers in the "Windy City", being heard for every event of importance over WCFL. Speaking of WCFL, Maynard Marquardt, its chief, is busily engaged in constructing and installing new control and monitoring equipment at WCFL'S new studio in the Furniture Mart, 666 Lake Shore Drive, which will be ready for occupancy about the latter part of June. Ted Morris, of WMAQ

—possibly the finest station in the "Windy Burg" from an engineering standpoint—has quite a time controlling and suitably cultivating his hirsuitical appendage (we refer to his misplaced eyebrow, or moustache); it epitomizes, in all its pristine beauty, the loving care which "Teddy" bestows on everything he does; his specialty is recording lathes and he made a fine one for the Sherwood Music School. Well, that's enough for the present. Hope we haven't bored you.

HENRY FRANCIS PARKS,  
Secretary A. T. R. Division.

#### L. U. NO. 177, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Editor:

Congratulations to the Editor! Every issue of the JOURNAL seems better than the last. Every member should be proud of their mouthpiece, yet many only give it a hasty once-over. Too bad! The "Comment" by President Broach is worth more than a casual glance. Every sentence is a gem; random thoughts, perhaps, but delivered with a punch that is characteristic of the man. His remarks headed, "Stay out of Business" in the current (May) issue seem "made to order" for our situation here (am calling special attention of our members to it). If you haven't read it yet dig up your copy now and give it the once over. Them's my sentiments and I've been through it from "soup to nuts". Was once a "boss" myself—to my sorrow. Many of our journeymen ruin themselves and hurt the industry by trying to be their own "boss". They would be much better off if they had a boss, but are too conceited to admit it.

We sent out invitations to 38 members of contracting firms here for a meeting on the 15th of this month (May), because we wanted to try to do something for our industry, and suggested an open discussion as a probable means of helping the situation. We have 30 licensed contractors, beside five more working for private industries, and for the period from December, 1930, to May 15, 1931, building permits amounting to \$419,320. Imagine the mad scramble for the electrical work represented by this amount of business. The net result of our open meeting was that we enjoyed the company of 10 contractors. We are planning many more of these meetings, for we have hopes of eventually solving some of the problems that are causing us no little concern. If we can persuade any one against entering the field we shall feel we have accomplished something, and if we could persuade any one to quit trying to do the impossible, and get out, we should feel highly elated. Many of these so-called "bosses" are doing their own work, or employing a helper when they have a run of luck, and serve as a breeding place for incompetent apprentices, employed through friendship of some one who has a job to let, or by reason of some family connection, without any regard for ability or adaptability for the work. I have a son, out of high school last year, who thinks he wants to "follow in 'Daddy's' footsteps", but just because of his Daddy's position he will wait his turn, although he shows more promise than others I could name.

Every local union should guard jealously the entrance of apprentices into the trade. Our future and theirs depend upon it. Many who have slipped in already should be sidetracked, "diplomatically", of course, at the first opportunity. Many local unions have accepted for membership many incompetent mechanics who are now a drawback to our advancement. Education is one solution, and if they won't or can't absorb the necessary knowledge then they should be

classified according to their ability and confined to work for which they are best adapted. The practice of taking every journeyman in a shop in order to sign up the employer is very bad practice and should be discouraged as much as possible. No employer who wants to be fair will expect it. We expect to, and will, make progress, but we must sell our labor on the basis of quality and good workmanship. If we accept every applicant without regard for his ability and his capacity for learning, our task is only the more difficult. Our largest electrical contractors, and the most successful ones, recognize the superiority of our mechanics now; others will, too, when they realize that we have adopted this policy and that our members can deliver the goods.

We wish the president would devote some space in his comments to the necessity for keeping accurate statistics. (Ed. please note.) We adopted the weekly report card system some months ago, but still have more or less trouble in making the members see the necessity for making out these reports. Our new by-laws, which have not yet been returned, make the filing of these reports mandatory, which may help, as we provided a penalty for failure to comply. The members want results and justly so, but some of them are too busy to devote five minutes a week to making out their time cards. Like many seemingly unimportant things, these statistics are of incalculable value to him if properly handled.

The Editor, having decided to "go fishin'" on the Fourth of July, has requested that all copy for the July issue be in a week earlier. Let's don't disappoint him, boys; he deserves a vacation. Any one who can edit a magazine such as ours every 30 days and attend to his other voluminous duties and still remain rational, is deserving of consideration. (Don't mention it.)

Now a few statistics, gathered in our "idle" moments, to tell the story of our local conditions, and a careful perusal is enough to convince the most skeptical that the end of the depression is not yet in sight, at least in this neck of the woods.

Electrical permits for March were 308, of which 43.2 per cent were to shops employing union labor, 15 per cent to municipal work and the balance of 41.8 per cent to non-union shops. For April (incomplete) shows 48.6 per cent to shops employing union labor, a slight gain. During March, the work was divided as follows: Union shops, representing 43.3 per cent, did only 43.2 per cent of the work, but in April (incomplete report) the same shops did 48.6 per cent. March and April combined 43.3 per cent of shops (union) employed 52 per cent of the journeymen. The average time made was 76.2 hours per man, and the per cent of time worked was 40.5 per cent.

Scarcely a day passes but what someone who couldn't stand the pressure is found floating in the St. Johns, or who "blew out the gas", taking the "easy way out". Yet our "captains of industry" and those who "view with alarm" are enjoying three or four squares a day, lounging in the lap of luxury, greedily lapping up the profits, living at the expense of the millions of half-clothed, underfed human derelicts, and insist upon cutting wages still further in order that the balance will show on the right side of the ledger. How much more equitable it would be if some of those whose salaries run into five or six figures, would accept a small reduction! How little they seem to realize that profits depend upon sales, and that sales depend upon the buying power of the ultimate consumer. Surely these misguided fools must be entirely without reason if they cannot see the fallacy of the practice. The solution is in the hands of the workers, and ballots, not bullets, are the weapons that must be employed. Sane leadership must come from the ranks of the suffering multitude and through their efforts, backed by the forces of right and common decency, will come the reversal of our economic system, or rather, lack of system, because Webster defines a system, as "orderly arrangement according to some common law", which the present plan certainly is not.

E. C. VALENTINE.

#### "Craft Chats"

By G. W. MILLER, Richmond, Va.

A most vital need of the installation branch of the industry, is adequate wiring standards for convenience outlets and the application of such standards in the form of code rules or local laws. We cannot much longer ignore the fact that miles and miles of flexible cords and other sub-standard materials are and have been installed as branch circuit wiring in the homes, as well as commercial and industrial buildings, thereby creating one of our greatest electrical fire hazards and a loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars to legitimate trade interests. The only reason for the existence or apparent necessity of this form of wiring is the absence of permanently located convenience outlets, that should have been incorporated a part of the original installation, by which the occupant can plug in the many useful as well as load building devices which he has been induced to purchase but cannot use legitimately because we have failed to require that he be provided with such means.

We cannot dodge the issue by saying it is purely a question of economy for the builder to decide because it isn't a question of economy; it is a necessity and will be done sooner or later and usually by occupants in an illegal manner. From the angle of code rules, it is just as logical to require adequate wiring and outlets as is now contained in the code requiring minimum size service equipment and wiring far in excess, in many instances, of actual requirements of present occupants. If portable devices, etc., are equipped with only six or eight feet of cord (and this seems to be the maximum on most of them) why not provide a permanent means by which they can be used within such lengths? In other words, why not require by code or local laws that convenience outlets be installed proportionately with the side wall surfaces and thereby afford permanent, safe means by which the many useful and healthful devices can be enjoyed?

Use your influence, through the channels provided within the industry, to this end.

## L. U. NO. 193, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Editor:

It is getting near time for election of officers for most of our locals. The best men should be picked. The ones, you know, that will do the work that the office calls for. Do not fool yourselves by putting men in office just because they seem to be good fellows and do a lot of talking. As a rule, that is about all they are good for, as you will learn after they are elected. The best plan is if you have tried officers now and who have carried out their duty and are willing to continue, put them back into that office. Do not change unless your officers have failed in their duty. Just because you do not like them for some personal reason is no excuse. The thing to do is to look over the past and see if they did their duty and if they did that, then do not look for any one else but get behind them and do your duty, help put them back into the office they held last term. If you can not do that then there is something wrong with you. If you go down the line and help your officers to carry out their duties you will notice some improvement right along and such acts will soon be taken up by other members and the whole local will benefit by such acts and good feeling will soon be noticeable and better results will be the reward. If you can not boost, then keep from knocking. Remember, a knocker can only get the ear of unreasoning heads; that is why such do not get any place and if by chance they do get a start it will be short lived, as they generally knock themselves out.

Work here has picked up some and most of the members are back on the job, but we can not say that more will be placed or that all members here will be working again. While we would like to be able to call for help, that would be luck, and we do not have any faith in luck.

How about organizing? It is about time to start. What suggestions have you? Let us hear from you by way of the JOURNAL. We gave our opinion in the last JOURNAL. May add, if a plan of division as to three local heads in Illinois can not be arranged, then there should be a rule made wherever two or more locals are organized in the same city and if any of the locals can not afford to place a business manager with full time in the field, then the International Vice President should order amalgamation for the benefit of workers in the future, even if some of the members would feel opposed to the arrangement.

Now let us hear yours; surely there ought to be some way to get out of this old rut. If we stay in it much longer there will come a time when linemen will be looking for a linemen's local, and they will be a hard thing to find, even harder than a job nowadays. Who is to blame? Tell us that, and give your excuse for such conditions. We are waiting.

F. C. HUSE.

## L. U. NO. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO

Editor:

Spring has come and tralling along with it as usual are the many things and events that everyone looks forward to, during the cold, dreary winter months, such as dandelions, mushrooms, B. V. D.'s, opening games, circus posters of a million colors and even the good old circus itself, and who dare say they fail to get a thrill out of the calliope, the big top and sawdust rings? These are a few of the things brought to us by spring for which we are all very grateful. On the other hand, some things not quite so agreeable are imposed on us, as in the case of our worthy Editor, who arrives at the office on one of these balmy spring mornings only to find his desk littered with copy from "The Copyist."

I might say, however, that effort was made to prevent this imposition on both the I. O. and the membership in general. Bill, our most recent scribe, resigned last month without even giving us his swan song. Jack, our able president, attempted to appoint a successor with no good results. When a volunteer was sought you could imagine you were in the death chamber of our Columbus penal institute.

Well, some one just had to carry on and continue to hold our franchise for old L. U. No. 212 in our monthly issue, so I may as well apologize right now, to you, Brother Bugniet, for the task you will have in deciphering, also to the members who will be expected to read the horrible manuscripts from now on (temporarily, at least) which will be brought to you from

THE COPYIST.

## L. U. NO. 214, CHICAGO, ILL.

Editor:

Thanks, boys, for the advice given me as to how to spend the \$2.50 I had left for 1930. However, I used my good sense of judgment and took myself out to the zoo and watched the animals in the game of the "survival of the fittest" and self-preservation. We, too, are in the game of the "survival of the fittest," and if we take enough interest in our organization, we shall survive the present depression without wage cuts, loss of present working conditions, etc. Come on, boys, get in the game and let's all survive.

In this connection, permit me to express a thought which has been in my mind for some time for your consideration. Some few issues back, Brother Latham, of one of the other railroad local unions here in Chicago, suggested some form of consolidating the various local unions of railroad electricians. What do you think of the idea? What are the advantages and disadvantages of having one railroad local for all electricians in and around Chicago? I do not know what the position of the "International" would be in this matter. No doubt we would find out were we to make a move in this direction. The writer has some definite views on this subject. What have you to offer? Think it over, you railroad electricians, perhaps you have some constructive suggestion or criticism to offer. Let us have it. So much for this.

In connection with the first paragraph of this letter, just what is our position on the railroads? Recent utterances in the daily papers tend toward an effort of a part of industry to reduce wages, and which has been rightly condemned by the heads of organized labor. On the railroads at present there is an organized effort to have the government sanction a raise in rates. Either that or a cut in wages. We of L. U. No. 214 are unalterably opposed to any downward revision of wages. We feel that the present wage rate does not as yet provide for a "living wage standard" as proved by the figures presented in my last letter which I contend cannot be disproved. The only real effective social and economic organization to combat these unsocial and uneconomic moves on the part of heads of industry in general is to join the ranks of "organized labor." If we fail to do that we shall be reduced to abject slavery.

Speaking of abject slavery reminds me of an item appearing in the local papers recently to the effect that one of our large merchandising establishments had organized a bank and insurance department. Now if it were only possible to have these various welfare schemes consolidate their efforts, all we would have to do is to be born, thereafter all our cares could be removed by means of their so-called welfare agencies. And then if

science can only help them a little more so that our childhood days can be removed from the scene, we would become that which they expect us to be—puppets in their hands.

So, in conclusion, let us who belong to organized labor say this to you who still sit on the fence, come on in, the water is fine, for if you don't we will all perish in this game of the survival of the fittest. Let us cease being puppets in the hands of the ones who would exploit us and then scrap us as they do a piece of machinery that has outlived its usefulness.

A. M. CORAZZA.

## L. U. NO. 230, VICTORIA, B. C.

Editor:

Summer games are in full swing on our little island, and the line gangs of the B. C. Electric are quite peeved if some of their achievements in the world of sport do not appear occasionally in the pages of the WORKER.

Brothers Bradshaw and "Buster" McKenzie aspire to be the leading lights of the horseshoe pitchers, but the monotonous regularity with which the oldtimers, Brothers Casey, Mat and Joe Ball, keep throwing ringers is very discouraging to them.

Brother Casey did not have much luck with his bowling bunch so he has started a soft ball team known as the "Gray Galloping Ghosts."

Their first game was with a nine from the Ancient and Honorable Company of Gentlemen Adventurers, otherwise known as the Hudson Bay Company.

They prepared for this game with considerable nervousness, but Brother Casey had foreseen this likely occurrence and to counteract it had brought along a transformer, kindly loaned by the B. C. Electric, and immediately connected it up and formed the fraternal circuit, threw in the switch and in the twinkling of an eye his followers became roaring lions ready to eat their opponents alive.

The fray started with Brother Casey going to bat.

Now in a former game of baseball, Brother Casey had saved his team from a whitewash by making a home run, and now was his chance to duplicate that feat. Carelessly approaching the plate, he moistened his hands copiously in the time-honored manner, rubbed them in the dust and then on his immaculate uniform, and then by the aid of his acquired electricity, made his bat to describe an invisible arc which fortunately caused it to come in contact with the first ball pitched. Did he make a home run? I'll say he did—while the crowd yelled its united head off. Encouraged by the dynamic example of their leader, the "Gray Galloping Ghosts" won the game by a score of 14 to 7, and if they do not lose their electricity bid fair to be the bright lights of the league.

Under the efficient coaching of "Chief Big Smoke" Meldram, Brother Harry Downs, known as "Bones" is fast becoming a spectacular figure in the baseball world. If the big league scouts ever dig up the price of the boat fare from the mainland and get their eyes on him while in action, he'll surely be slated for the majors.

The present condition of the inside wiremen is not very satisfactory, owing chiefly to the difficulty of getting the contractors to sign up the new scale and also to the inroads made in the trade by the curbstoners who are taking jobs at any old price, but the linemen are keeping fairly busy with very few members out of work. I get letters from Brothers from all over the map asking what are the chances here for a job. The last one was from a Brother in Joliet, Ill., and I am sorry to have to spin them all the same old yarn, "nuthin' doin'!"

Last Monday, the members all laid off in a body to attend the funeral of our late Brother, John Grant. Jack, as he was known to all, had been a consistent member of Local No. 230 for many years, having held the office of president for several terms. Twenty-four years ago he landed here, took a minor job with the B. C. Electric, served his apprenticeship as a lineman, and had risen to be line superintendent when he was stricken down by an incurable malady. He bore his suffering with great fortitude. The last three months of his life were spent in the hospital where he passed away, leaving a wife and son and many friends to mourn their loss.

SHAPPIE.

#### L. U. NO. 262, PLAINFIELD, N. J.

Editor:

Well, another month has just rolled by and that same old hard luck, unemployment is still staring us in the face. There have not been any changes in conditions for electricians this past month. For a matter of fact all of the trades in Plainfield report "slow."

The same old faces are seen day after day in the local's day room, hoping that some of our contractors will call for a man or men or that a call might come from some other local asking for men. Nevertheless, it is not the same as in years gone by. In the spring of the year building is supposed to be well started and there should not be a man loafing in any of the trades, but times have changed since then.

How different it would be if all of the people of our cities in the country, who have the money to spend, would use a little of it to beautify their homes, instead of letting them run down to rack and ruin. I'll bet there are thousands of such homes all over the country, and the people who live in them should get the spirit of helping instead of being so selfish. If people would wake up to this fact, we wouldn't be having all this unemployment. Not until people do wake up to the fact that we are all headed for the same place, a few will head in other directions, and not until the people realize that we can't take our money with us to spend, working conditions cannot improve. Therefore, why not spend it here and make some other poor unfortunates happy?

Our business manager, Brother Hook, at present has on hand 45 Brothers out of work. Now who wants a man for a few days? Maybe folks have gone back to using oil lamps instead of using the juice in order to save, but we hope for the best, and we are trying to hold our end up.

I have often wondered what keeps a lot of the Brothers from attending union meetings. I won't say that it is carelessness on their part, but they think that if they attend one meeting out of the month it is all right. Brothers, that is not the way to feel. Don't let pleasure interfere with your local meetings, because that is where you are needed to help make better working conditions and adjust different grievances that might occur from time to time.

The sooner that the members realize that a local cannot be run right with just a handful attending the meetings, the better for the local as well as the members. This month we have the nomination of officers, and I hope all of the Brothers will leave all their pleasures to other nights and come out and vote for the right men for office.

JACK PATTERSON.

#### L. U. NO. 275, MUSKEGON, MICH.

Editor:

There is one nice thing about the lack of employment. It gives one plenty of time to pursue the speckled beauties. Fishing is

good here. The big ones are getting away as usual.

Brothers Plunkett and Startup took advantage of the dull times. Each took a trip through the southern states and from their remarks we conclude the time was well spent.

When President Hoover remarked that good times were just around the corner he forgot to give the location of that corner. We are still looking for it.

The Michigan State Legislature has been considering two bills concerning the electrical field. One calls for state-wide inspection of all electrical work. The other provides for a state license for electricians. We favor both bills.

We shall soon have a barrel shortage if the factories continue to cut wages, for what else can a man wear on 25 cents per hour?

I. M. GIBBS.

#### L. U. NO. 288, WATERLOO, IOWA

Editor:

No, we are not dead, but have been dormant for some time, I guess. But having gone through our spring training with the wage agreement as usual and the grass turning green, we have come through the winter in fair shape. We took a slight cut after a lockout of nine days, but through the good work of Brother Hugh O'Neil, International Representative, we arrived at a settlement that was satisfactory to all. Work is the same here as in other localities. The future looks some better than the past.

We look for the WORKER every month as it surely is the best ever. We appreciate Brother Broach's lectures and remarks. Also the correspondence section. We can be proud of our JOURNAL, as all craftsmen who see it say it is the best they have seen.

As I am not much of a writer, will call this off for this time.

H. A. MOYER,  
Recording Secretary Pro tem.

#### L. U. NO. 290, BARTLESVILLE, OKLA.

Editor:

With the permission of the local, I am writing a few lines and sending a picture to let the Brothers know L. U. No. 290 is still operating. The two towers and the top of the south wing are an addition to the Phillips Petroleum Company's home office. An eight-story north wing is planned when or if the oil industry comes back to life. The seven-story wing was built four years ago.

An incident on this job has never ceased to be a wonder to the Phillips employees who observed it. The company purchased the fixtures direct and started to hang them with janitors, or what have you. A call to the business manager had him on the job early the next morning and with the rare but judicial aid of the architect's representative the fixture hanging stopped. Later the job was given to a local contractor who sent a man over to hang the fixtures. Now what they cannot understand is, "How can a bunch of poor working men tell the Phillips Petroleum Company what it can or cannot do and why was it that the men on the construction job did not get sore at the man who came to hang the fixtures?" Do you get their slant? Brothers, why cannot working men see far enough to help one another?

Our president has been pounding away at our membership ever since he took office to "get down to business." The lack of interest in his untiring effort is appalling. I heard it said that one of our International Officers remarked at a convention not long ago, "The only thing you failed to do this time was to take the word Brotherhood out of our name."

Boys, nobody took it out. It has been allowed to die down. Conditions change and mankind changes. If we have to call "Brotherhood" "business," all right, but let's get down to business. Let's learn business from those who conduct thriving businesses. Some may say, like the tramp, "If you are so damn smart, why ain't you rich?" Brothers, I am rich; I have friends all over this old globe. Men and women who when I meet them offer me their hand in friendship and make me feel that I have treated them right so they are glad to see me. Money doesn't buy that. Maybe that is good business.

In the April JOURNAL our president states, "Small locals are not being neglected. That 90 per cent of the time of our officers is given to small local unions." I will grant this statement is right from the records, but he adds, "Our staff is so small that it is impossible to properly cover all points in the 48 states and Canada." So there you are. I beg to differ with the Brother, and he is big enough to let me. The small locals are being neglected but most of the neglect is from the members of these locals. We do not get the work that belongs to us and work we could get if we went after it in the proper manner. We fall down on the quality of our work and everybody loses. Work is being done in a manner that is detrimental and hazardous to life and limb. Insurance is responsible for some of this and we could remedy lots of that by organized effort and co-operation with insurance companies. I know several men who are good mechanics but cannot work on some jobs because of insurance regulations. Why not prohibit work being done certain ways because of insurance regulations? It's a poor rule that does not work both ways.

Now, Sisters and Brothers, I am going to follow Brother Broach this much and step on a corn if it needs stepping on. Why is it that so many members have money for cars, gasoline, home-brew, hunting and fishing trips, wine, women and song, etc., but have so much trouble keeping up their dues? Nothing personal or no locality in mind, because it is universal in practice. Every union worker should read the story of "The Bronze Warrior," in our JOURNAL last fall. Maybe I am a crank on keeping dues up but I still think it should be done.

Another thing that is done that is not right is working in a jurisdiction without putting up the old green ticket. This was done by an old member in good standing right here recently. He saw one of those rare signs, "Linemen wanted," and although he had an inside card and said he had not been up a stick in years, he put on a belt and hooks and mounted a 75 with one stop. I saw him up the pole and I did not have the nerve to call a Brother with that much nerve for working with the outfit of non-union men. If he did not tell them nobody knows he carried a card up that stump.

CHARLIE MAUNSELL.

#### L. U. NO. 292, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Editor:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said,  
'This is my own, my native land!'"

Thus we teach our children and thus are they taught in the institutions of public learning and thus were we also taught. "Our country, the great, grand, glorious and beautiful United States of America! The land of the free and the home of the brave! The golden land of opportunity!" These sentences make one thrill with patriotic loyalty and national pride, but also we fear that they have engendered a complacent, uncritical, blind optimism that has lulled us

into a lethargic placidity in which condition we have failed to note the growth of the Frankenstein monster that is about to devour us.

Patriotism and national pride are very fine, grand and beautiful, but patriotism must be of the right kind—a patriotism that is loyal to the interests and general welfare of the entire population, not just to the selfish interests of a favored and privileged few. And national pride is only justifiable when and where there exist those conditions within the nation of which we may be proud. What have we to be proud of? Let us see.

We have a representative form of government limited by the constitution. We are not governed by an absolute monarch, so we can't lay the blame for our troubles in that direction.

The founders of the nation bequeathed to us a very practical and workable form of government, and what have we done with it? Have we kept the faith? Have we fulfilled the trust? Have we not either sat idly by and allowed the forces of special privilege to steal our birthright or else listened to our "master's voice" and helped them to place in public office their own hand-maids and lackeys to make their laws for them to govern us with and to interpret the constitution in accordance with their wishes?

Is it surprising that we have between six and eight million workless workers, 40,000,000 people on the verge of poverty, 504 people with an aggregate income of \$1,185,135,330 per year and with 36 of these with an aggregate income of \$350,358,785 per year or an average of about \$9,000,000 each per year? Remember this is in the richest nation in the world with a population of about 120,000,000 people and an aggregate wealth of \$361,800,000,000 in round numbers.

"Our country!" Is it our country? Or, if it is, how much longer is it going to be our country? There is not much ground for patriotism or loyalty in the life of a slave, and 40 per cent or more of the population today are in a position where the masters can plunge them into virtual slavery at their own sweet will.

We hear a great deal about the present industrial system being the great American system. There is nothing particularly American about it except that America has developed the big business system of ruthless commercialism, a little more ruthlessly, a little more lawlessly, a little more heartlessly and selfishly, and on a trifle larger scale than other countries have. The present industrial system is universal; in fact it is nearly not a system at all; it's a disease, and every civilized nation on earth is afflicted with it. System, bah! It's nothing but a blind, mad scramble after the dollar; a short-sighted, selfish wail and cry and gouge and squeeze and grab for dividends, profits, through mergers and holding companies, through stock jobbery and stock juggling and falsification and misrepresentation for tax dodging purposes, through corrupting of government officials, election frauds and all the rest of the long list of disgraceful, dishonest and disgusting practices that have been resorted to in the history of the development of this so-called modern industrial system.

"By their fruits ye shall know them," and such a conglomeration of sour, rotten and bitter fruit never before came from a single source. In the richest country in the world, with a mass of wealth that far surpasses anything in history, with thousands of its citizens starving, millions of them without employment, more millions suffering the privations of poverty and yet, the gran-



HOME OFFICE BUILDING, PHILLIPS PETROLEUM CO., BARTLESVILLE, OKLA.  
Wired by Members of 298 for Allen Electric Co., Tulsa.

aries, store-houses, docks, tanks and elevators stocked to overflowing with the products of industry, the markets glutted with goods that cover practically all the necessities and luxuries of life. And these conditions must continue because under this system they tell us, there is no market.

How long, oh, how long, are we to continue to produce for profits instead of for use? How long are we to continue to exalt the values of money and of things above human values? Will the people ever wake up and save themselves by throwing off this incubus, or must we forever suffer and endure the anarchy, chaos and degradation of this crazy system?

W. WAPLES.

#### L. U. NO. 298, MICHIGAN CITY, IND.

Editor:

It is very hard to keep one's thoughts from hard times and the members out of work when writing of things concerning our local.

A man's union spirit is surely tested when everything begins to go wrong.

Our local has among its members the man who holds the position of city electrical inspector. He is also deputy state fire marshal and has, in that capacity, something to say regarding wiring methods outside the city. This is Brother Young, our financial secretary. Could any of you be here and put in a job suitable for his inspection you would readily see how having an I. B. E. W. member as inspector helps our local.

Anyone doing electrical contracting in our city must have a license and the examining committee issuing such license is composed of two of our members and one established contractor. This also helps.

The idea of Brother Wilson, Local No. 306, in putting the unemployed in the gardening business will not work here. The city is built on shifting sand dunes and often when we look for our back yard it has left. In fact, the ground is so easily worked that the line trucks carry small electric fans and merely

blow the holes for the poles. Sand burrs on shoes and pants make hooks unnecessary for linemen, but are good for no other practical purpose. Nothing else seems to grow well and, aside from exercise, I'm afraid that the garden wouldn't help an unemployed electrical worker much.

For some reason, since so many of our members have been out of work, the attendance at meetings has fallen off. It seems that it would work out the other way. Lots of the Brothers who stay away will be surprised to learn, by the time they read this issue of the JOURNAL, that a new set of by-laws has been drawn up and put in force and that officers have been nominated for the coming two years and that the election of officers will take place June 26-31. It may interest them to know that meetings are short and to the point lately and ample time is had after meeting to renew old acquaintance with the Brothers who still attend.

PHIL CALLAHAN.

#### L. U. NO. 308, ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Editor:

No doubt you were trying to guess what has become of me, but don't worry, I am still here, and with bells on; as I have said before that I do not like to hog too much space in our great JOURNAL, therefore I skip a chance now and then.

Well, another one went down in the first line trench—our worthy Brother, A. Wilson. Up and at 'em, boys. The enemy needs looking after, and let us not stand idly by and watch our good soldiers go down in a heap. I say again, up and at 'em, and with that same old slogan, "United we stand," we can win the day. We had the pleasure of having Brother Wilson in our midst, and I am sure the little while he spent here, we have benefited much. I have heard it said by high-up theologians that God does not overlook such sacrifices. No greater love has any man than the one who will die for his fellowmen.

We have also had the pleasure of meeting with our worthy Brother Barker, who has done some missionary work here.

We are not setting the world on fire, but there are a few odd jobs here and there that let the boys in to get enough for grits. The future looks brighter inasmuch as we have re-organized the building trades council and our worthy Brother, Tommy Reese, has been duly elected as chairman of same. The realty market is moving slowly. The Catholic sisters have bought the Faith Hospital, which will give some work, there being alterations made. Then the latest news just came in, that the veterans' hospital will be built here with the expenditure of about a million dollars.

Now that the election of officers is coming on, I sincerely hope the Brothers will attend their meetings so that we can make a good selection among ourselves as to who shall be the crew. Do not get the attitude of "letting George do it" and then criticize him for not doing what you expected of him; a little co-operation on your part will help a whole lot.

The "Twelve-Months Club" is doing a lot to make this an all-year-round resort, and so far is meeting with success.

Fishing is good now and the beaches very attractive, and with several conventions listed we are keeping things moving.

THE WOODCHOPPER.

#### L. U. NO. 339, FORT WILLIAM, ONT.

Editor:

Seeing that at a recent meeting I was elected press secretary, the gang will be looking for some reading matter from Local

No. 339. They, therefore, must not be disappointed. The local, I am pleased to say, is still doing business, although, on account of the universal depression, nothing new is being accomplished. The annual schedules are being put forward for consideration, but I am not going to make any comments on these at present. The unemployed question is uppermost in the minds of the laboring classes here at present. Navigation has again opened on the thawing of the waters after their winter's rest. This, in years gone by, was a sign of activity, but this year the sign is apparently a minus one instead of being plus. The two railroads are not yet getting any increase in business to warrant the removal of the short time railway employees have been subject to for the past 18 months, said short time being further reduced until we are now getting four days per week, railroad workers being entirely out of a job. On all sides we hear: "What is the government going to do?" "What are the unions doing about it?" and what the future probabilities are nobody dare say.

Whether any person, organization or body is doing anything to alleviate the situation is apparently unknown; whether it is the intention of the powers that be to get along this summer with the least possible resistance, trusting in somebody else for a remedy, is a matter of conjecture but it is the knowledge of everybody that if a correction is not made next winter will be a season of suffering to a far greater extent than previously, as there will be no summer earnings for the ordinary worker to think twice about. Now, Mr. Editor, if you have any solution to offer for the present low wage checks some of us are getting please let those responsible know about it. In the meantime I would like to say a word of warning to Brothers traveling this way: We do all we can to give a helping hand but our capacity is limited, and there is no new work in sight for this summer. No more this time.

PRESS SECRETARY.

#### L. U. NO. 353, TORONTO, ONT.

Editor:

Time to get the letter in the JOURNAL for the month of June. Really there is little to write about. We have decided that depression talk is out of order and since there is not much construction going on in this district, I am going to dig up and expose a little of the silver lining back of the gloom clouds now overhanging the building industry.

In my opinion, no matter how tough things are, there is always something a member has to be thankful for. I am going to enumerate a few of the points I have in mind:

##### Something To Be Thankful For

Jack Nutland: That Percy Eversfield does not always report for meetings in the mental condition he displayed at the special unemployment relief meeting.

Pete Ellsworth: That the constitution automatically adjourns all meetings at 11 p. m., eliminating a lot of domestic complications.

Joe Godden: That his Dodge car was sturdy enough to stand that crash without annihilating Joe.

Jimmie Curran: That the kind of a man who doesn't fit in is almost a thing of the past in this local.

Jimmie McKenzie: That he lives in North Toronto, where the climate and neighbors are most congenial.

Cecil M. Shaw: That it is quite impossible to load him up with any more assessments.

Bill Brown: That he is not business manager with 175 men out of work.

R. C. Smith: That Brother Shaw accepted his apology.

Ted Curtis: That the cut-throat electric company never materialized.

Doug. Morris: That our apprentices are of such high calibre that the examining board's work is a cinch.

Roy McLeod: That the helper question has temporarily been settled. There's no one working just now.

Bert Maunders: That there are still a reasonable number of motions to second.

Ernie Ingles: That he still owns a typewriter in working order.

John Noble: That Kitchener is so conveniently located to Toronto.

Al Donaldson: That you don't have to believe everything you hear.

Harry Wilson: That he will be able to ease the load of many of the unemployed boys when the exhibition job opens. It will be short but sweet.

Billy Rhea: That we have not foisted any more bun feeds on his sensitive temperament.

Bill Gerard: That things, although bad, cannot possibly be much worse.

Johnny Dolson: That Boomer Davis is coming to town to check and double check.

Frank J. Selke: That 95 per cent of the members have shown remarkable union labor spirit throughout the past winter of hardships.

That the warm weather is bound to increase building activity a little.

That Mike Boyle has the time and patience to help F. J. S. solve some of Toronto's problems out of his vast experience at Chicago.

That the members of Local No. 353 are always ready to support a worthy cause in the interests of the Brotherhood and above all that when the boys read this article the writer will be able to duck from cover until the storm blows over.

Good luck and good-bye.

FRANK J. SELKE.

#### L. U. NO. 409, WINNIPEG, CANADA

Editor:

I have nothing outstanding to write on about our last regular meeting. Merely routine business which was handled in the usual business-like manner.

At our regular meeting in June nominations for officers for the ensuing two-year period will be in order.

At a special meeting on June 18 further nominations, if necessary, and election of officers will take place.

After this business is concluded a social evening will drive dull care away, and festivity will be the order of the day.

A live committee has been struck off to handle the entertainment and refreshment end of it. (Corkscrews will be provided.)

All members are earnestly requested to turn out at the special meeting, as this business is of vital importance to you, so make a special effort to be there.

I am hoping the JOURNAL will be in every member's hand before the 18th so that this request may be in time to remind those who have not done so to keep this date open.

Sometimes a slip occurs, and a magazine goes on a jaunt by itself, and turns up the following month, as my April number did.

Had it not been for this I would have sent in a reply to the footnote of our Editor in the May JOURNAL. The footnote states: "This member is confused. The ballot clearly stated the matter. The overwhelming vote of the Canadian local unions shows this member does not express their sentiment."

Now, Mr. Editor, I beg to reverse this statement of yours and state that you are confused.

The statements I made were the discussions

of only one local, to wit: L. U. No. 409, not of Canadian local unions. I do not endeavor to express the sentiment of other locals, merely our own. We cannot intelligently discuss the affairs of locals in other parts of the country, and moreover, I doubt if that would be good policy.

R. GANT.

#### L. U. NO. 427, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Editor:

This local is going through the same experience that most of the locals have had a taste of. Since February 1, 1931, work has let up, and to date we have one-fourth of our members idle, and from the looks of what is in sight there will be some idle men for some time to come.

We would advise the traveling brethren to pass up this city if it is work they are looking for.

The Pan Handle Gas Line Company is installing its lines in this vicinity and has cut the laborers from 55 cents to 40 cents per hour. The writer has written the Flur Construction Company, of Kansas City, Mo., which has the general contract. The Petroleum Electric Company, of Tulsa, Okla., has been doing all the Flur Company's work. We received a letter from them and they requested that we send them our wage scale, but that is all we have ever heard from either company. If any reader of this article can give us any information on either one of these firms we would appreciate same.

As the spring elections are over, we have started to work on the smaller towns in our jurisdiction. Jacksonville, Ill., will have an ordinance passed by the time this goes to print, and we hope that we can report a signed up town and union men on the jobs in our next letter.

There are other towns we are working on but it takes time and we believe that we will be able to report one or two more later on.

We have had our new by-laws returned from the International Office and have had them printed, and are in the hands of our members.

The International Office has certainly put in a lot of work on these by-laws for the local unions and if the members will read and digest what the by-laws say and mean, the officers of each local will be more able to carry on the business of the local to better advantage and with less friction.

We had the pleasure of having International Vice President Boyle and Brother Cleary, of the International Office staff, with

us for a brief visit last month. They gave us some very interesting facts about local unions and how they should be run, and informed us that the International Office has been trying and will insist that all locals carry on their business in a business-like manner, and that they must abide by the new constitution and by-laws of the local of which they are members, or of the local in which jurisdiction they are working.

We are at times reminded that we are our brother's keeper. If we all work in harmony with each other and the contractors, we will get much farther in our dealings. There was a time, when we as a union thought only of ourselves, but times have changed, and we found that it is a very important fact, that we take the contractor into our confidence, for more reasons than one—the pay check.

From the writer's point of view, our International Officers should be congratulated on the stand they have taken in withdrawing the I. B. E. W. from the Building Trades Council. In my years of experience as an electrical estimator I can truthfully agree with the statement made that the general contractor does less than 30 per cent of the work on the building.

Government and large buildings and work are generally done by what is termed jobbing contractors, who have nice office rooms, and some of the best estimators in all lines of work that can be found. The figures are all compiled and then the bid is submitted, and if they land the job, then the dirty work starts. The work on the building is then peddled, and no doubt you have worked on some of these jobbing jobs and have seen a sub-contractor lose all he ever had and then some. And these are the men who are trying to formulate rules and to tell legitimate contractors how, when and where they are to run their own businesses. But then, Barnum was right, there is a fool born every minute, and suckers bite at all good-looking prospects.

The great state of Illinois is far behind its sister states in regard to labor laws. Just now the labor leaders of the state are and have been battling with both houses of the legislature trying to get some of the more important labor bills passed.

The women's eight-hour bill passed the Senate after they had cut it so it is nothing but a nine-hour bill, and now it goes to the House, and what they will do no one knows. The workmen's compensation act bill is having a hard time to live. The big interests are at work all the time, and they have everything to work with. But labor will give them a run for their money. The prevailing rate

wage bill will pass both houses. We shall let you know what was done on all labor bills after the session adjourns, so look in the July WORKER for the answer.

Now when we as voters stand idly by and let the money interests put their paid attorneys as state Senators and Representatives to make and break laws we cannot expect to get very far with our labor laws.

We as laboring men and women must wake up and get back of our own, if we ever hope to see the time when all shall have the right that God has given them. The right to live unhampered by the money horders of this free land of ours. Our children have the same right to enjoy the good things of life, and the only way we shall ever see it is by being loyal to our own men and women when they come out for any public office.

We have just received a copy of an address delivered by Mr. L. K. Comstock to the Electrical Guild, at Washington, D. C. It is certainly a masterpiece and it should be read by every one who is interested in the electrical profession, and moreover by the contractors, as Mr. Comstock has made it very plain that our line of work is in jeopardy if we do not put a halt to some of the laws that are and are trying to be put on our statute books of the different states.

As one who is on the ground floor, so to speak, attending the sessions of both Houses of the Legislature, it will not be surprising to learn that big interests have a very large majority of the members with them, and the labor laws that this assembly is asked to enact do not affect these members as a whole, as very few of them are classed as laboring men, but they are in the hands of our enemies who are instructed to vote against bills that are favorable to labor.

Unemployment is still the leading topic of this great land and if the large interests have their way it will be the topic for some time to come. We see it around here, on hard road construction, pipe line work, public work in building. The laborer is the fall guy. The labor union here has a very hard time, this being in the coal mining belt and the mines not working on full time. The men must work, so these contractors take advantage of the situation and pay as little per hour for labor as they wish.

The other crafts are pretty well organized but we do have some open shops. But what city has not? So we are living in hope that the prevailing wage rate bill will be passed in every state where this bill is up for consideration.

We have been singing the blues for so long

## SCHOOL DAZE By Al. Guy



To the store for groceries, Joe was SENT,  
And he lost his money, every CENT,  
But this skunk gave him  
an awful SCENT.



that it will become chronic, so let us turn over and sing there is a silver lining in every cloud, and we earnestly hope for these clouds to show up soon.

HERMAN R. ARMBRUSTER.

#### L. U. NO. 514, DETROIT, MICH.

Editor:

Although the amalgamation of L. U. No. 58 and this local have failed on the last hour, so to speak, this does not break any ties, nor does it make any, that's sure, and it does not put either local at loggerheads.

Those members who are thinking members and, of course, you are the men who are interested, have said, "that's disappointing," and right you are, but we shall go into the subject at a later date and hope to swing in line.

We believe it is a move that must come eventually and it is a matter, of course, of time, but in the meantime we shall go on as is.

And now to say something about the gang around here. Well, it's the same as usual, not much work and that is not new. Some of the boys get their full time and don't think it's right to split the time up with the other boys.

The automobile factories are hiring back their old men if they care to go back at 12 hours a day and seven days per week, and like it. You know the only difference between the galley slave days and now is they don't use the rawhide whip. Of course, you understand this elimination is only a humanitarian act. And it has its advantages, it speeds up prosperity and when President Hoover's unemployment committee gets all through gathering the facts here and there my hope and desire is that the fish hatcheries have a goodly supply of fish to put in the lakes and rivers so we can do more fishing. Any support on that?

L. FUNK.

#### L. U. NO. 601, CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILL.

Editor:

Here it is:  
A little work.  
Same pay "if any."  
Same hours "when."  
S. O. S. (not help).

H. O. Dodds.

#### L. U. NO. 713, CHICAGO, ILL.

Editor:

The members of our local are having their troubles during this depression and the outlook is none too bright. Up to this time we have been successful in maintaining our wage scales, although we did agree to an adjustment of prices at the Automatic Electric Company.

A few days ago I had a visit from an investigator from the Department of Labor, and it was brought forcibly to my attention that Local No. 713 is in a class of its own. When I started to give this gentleman our various wage scales he was rather confused and in order to straighten him out, I explained that we have the only union telephone manufacturing shop, the only union power board and lighting panel shops, the only union elevator control board shops, and the only union shop which manufactures charging boards in this country. He then realized the situation. Our wage scale for Class "A" men runs from 92 cents per hour in the Automatic Electric Company to \$1.25 per hour in the power and panel board shops.

We are, of course, up against the rankest kind of competition and it has been our hope that some local would some day announce

#### ATTENTION, SCRIBES

**It will convenience this office very much if all copy for the July issue, be in our hands by June 24—one week earlier than usual.**

that they had succeeded in unionizing one or all of these various branches. Our greatest competition in the switchboard game comes from St. Louis and Cleveland, and if the three large switchboard shops in those two cities could be straightened out it would surely be a great start in the right direction.

Don't get the idea that we are crying about the situation, just merely writing something which we think would be interesting to some of the Brothers.

Our election of officers takes place in June and I trust that I will be able to continue my literary efforts after that date.

JOHN F. SCHILT.

#### L. U. NO. 734, NORFOLK, VA.

Editor:

The annual convention of the Virginia Federation of Labor held in Danville this year adjourned Tuesday, May 19.

Your correspondent was not a delegate this year so details are lacking at this time but our financial secretary, J. Fred Cherry, was re-elected president of the federation.

Although we were not present we can give you a rough outline of the proceedings at a labor convention.

The convention will open with perhaps

an attendance of 250 delegates, 50 per cent of whom wonder what it is all about. On the opening date one-half of one per cent will wander in and take a seat on the right of the center aisle about 10 rows back, and at frequent intervals will give vent to obstructive interjections and sometime during the convention, this one-half of one per cent will rise and launch a vicious attack on some constituted authority which will be applauded by the 50 per cent who wonder what it is all about, and which will be received in silence by those who are trying to accomplish something. When in spite of interruptions and obstructions, the business of the convention is completed, the convention will adjourn with everyone feeling that he or she has done their duty and the work will have been accomplished by the workers who comprise about 10 per cent of the delegates.

We read with considerable amusement the lament from L. U. No. 113. On several occasions our stuff, too, has been cut, but we always felt and still feel that this was the fault of some careless subordinate.

The letter from L. U. No. 406 strikes a responsive chord here, this being an open shop, any helper or apprentice in our local is a member because he wants to be a union man and is forced to be a "silent partner." Cockburn thinks that news of a snow flurry in Canada will cool the "fevered brows of some of our good Brothers in the south." That was in April, and tonight, on the 25th of May, our fevered brows are being comforted by coal fires here in Virginia.

Procter and Gamble have bought the plant and trade marks of the Portsmouth (Va.) Cotton Oil Refining Company. Several jobs have been abolished but in the main the old employees are being kept and no cut in pay has been made. Plans are being made for enlargement and in making up estimates the local wage scale is used for a base. This plant is not organized and probably will not be organized but we have no idea that any attempt will be made to lower the local scale.

Mr. James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation, states publicly, " \* \* \* the big, standard companies are not maintaining wage scales \* \* \* I think \* \* \* it's a pretty cheap sort of business." Secretary Mellon, of the Treasury Department, says nothing but harm will be accomplished by reducing wages and the standard of living. These are only two of the many in the Capital who are lined up with us in resisting a general wage cut. Such an alignment would have been beyond the wildest imagination two decades ago. Labor is progressing.

SAUVAN.

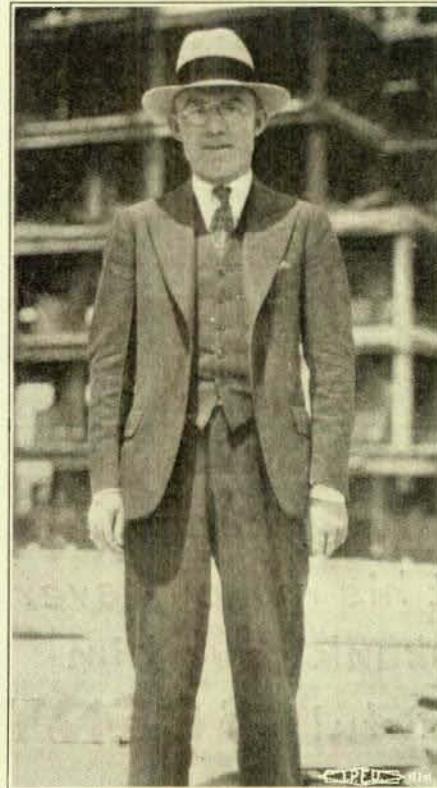
#### L. U. NO. 1141, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.

Editor:

Another one of our worthy officers has crossed the great divide. Too much worry and grief. Petty jealousy causes much grief in the locals. Are we men or just children? Misunderstanding and hearsay—the next time a knocker comes to you with a nasty remark about some Brother, quote this to him:

"A good thing to remember,  
And a better thing to do,  
Is work with the construction gang,  
And not with the wrecking crew."

Does your family know Brother Smith's? Plan some local picnics this summer. Get better acquainted with your Brothers and petty jealousy will disappear. Tomorrow evening Local No. 1141 is putting on a picnic.



S. B. RUDEWICK  
International Representative

I'm quite sure that I will get better acquainted with the boys and their families.

Local No. 1141 is rated as the best labor organization in this city. We are proud that we are striving at all times to help make this city a bigger and better place in which to live. Our meetings are strictly business and no man under the influence of intoxicants is allowed or tolerated.

I was appointed as maintenance man for the State Capitol here May 1, and will do my part to help make Governor Murray's administration the best that this state has ever had. Brothers, Governor Murray was a godsend to this state and is seeing to it that the working class gets a square deal. He was president of the Constitutional Convention when Oklahoma was formed in 1907. I might add another thing: The newspapers of this city and Tulsa have found a man to whom they cannot dictate.

In closing, let me say, Brothers, that we have a little work here and enough men on the bench to wire the Empire State Building, so don't waste your time and money in coming.

Herewith a photo of the boys that are doing the first National Bank job here. Reading from the left standing: Stanley Rudewick, Zelb, Reno, Moser, Lyons, Nickens, Lewis, Hardy, True, Bradley, Rushing, and McCann. Seated, left: Dasback, Courtney, Sprecker, Gains, Wellday, Adolph Onessler, superintendent for Uihlien Ortmann Electric of Milwaukee, Dreamy Johnson, and Hicks.

Brothers, it's a pleasure to work for Uihlien Ortmann, they treat you like white folks without the asking on your part. Who wouldn't produce for a company like that? Young and Williams missed connections on the elevator, therefore, are not in the picture. Brigham said his soles were thin and he couldn't afford to climb the steps 14 floors for one snapshot.

Here is also a picture of the man that was the answer to the dreams and prayers of Local No. 1141, Stanley B. Rudewick. Brothers, you've heard of real honest to God men, well, here's one of them. He is a game fighter, does things and couldn't be bought by the open shop at any price. Brother Rudewick has worked many a night when most of us were sleeping, straightening out some job so that the boys could bring home the bacon to their loved ones. Word comes to me that Brother Rudewick is to leave us shortly. Local No. 1141 regrets very much to see him go. Our associations with him and Mrs. Rudewick will always be treasured with the finer things of our lives. I say again, Brothers, "there's a man's man."

TOM RUSHING.

#### NOTICE

Local Union No. 401, Reno, Nev., can not accept traveling cards of members. Newspaper stories of prosperous times in Reno are exaggerated and untrue, and no electrical workers are needed. Our local is unable to take care of or feed their destitute members.

GEORGE I. JAMES,  
Recording Secretary.



THIS CREW FROM LOCAL NO. 1141 WIRED FIRST NATIONAL BANK,  
OKLAHOMA CITY

#### Women's Auxiliary

##### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY L. U. NO. 308, ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Editor:

The WORKER has just come in, and we will have to hurry to have our letter reach Washington by the first. Wasn't it great to see so many auxiliaries represented this month and to hear about so many good times and real work that is being done? We are doing a woman's work and must be proud to tell the world about it.

So much has happened since I wrote in last! We had two deaths, one very sad—Mr. A. Wilson. We were all shocked and sorry. He had spent several weeks here and we grew to know him quite well.

Mr. Lunde, although an electrician, had been with Moses' Band several years. They play in Williams Park during the winter.

The festival of States' Week was a great success, with the many pageants that were staged this year made it all very beautiful. Our water front has seemed almost lifeless, if it were not for the yachts and tiny craft here and there, since stripped of its lighted glory.

We continue to have monthly socials with good attendance. While not putting on anything to bring in any money, the auxiliary has been able to finance its socials and buy up a few things as well. Last meeting we served an clam chowder supper with salad, coffee and hot rolls, which proved very popular.

Next meeting we plan to give a chicken gumblia supper with all the trimmings. This will probably be contributed by auxiliary members.

The auxiliary gave its first beach party, Saturday, May 23, and since there are so many miles of beaches on the gulf here, we could easily choose a lovely, private spot. The men soon had a large bonfire going, while most of us were in bathing and by the time it had died down to embers all began roasting weenies, each one roasting their own, at the end of a long wire, and, with the aid of iced drinks and other edibles, all had more than they wanted. We had Mr. and Mrs. Beck from Tampa and Mr. Barker, an International Representative from Alabama, as our guests.

The men have promised to reciprocate by giving a fish fry on the beach soon. Let's all say hooray!

What do you all say about the chain stores?

MRS. MALCOLM MARKS.

#### OBSOLETE LIVING COSTS EXCUSE FOR WAGE CUTS

(Continued from page 291)

covery is to instill a sense of security in the minds of 40,000,000 workers who are gainfully employed.

"Today these workers live in fear that their wages will be cut, or that they will lose their jobs.

"Instead of spending, they hoard their dollars. They should. They are only practicing that sturdy self-reliance and rugged individualism recommended

by President Hoover.

"If those 40,000,000 consumers were assured that their wages would not be cut, and if they could be certain of an annual income, they would begin to spend. Consumption would increase, production would pick up and the vanguard of our 6,000,000 unemployed would be called back to work.

"To reduce wages would simply bring about a maladjustment of the distribution of the earnings of capital and labor that existed before the depression."

Assistant Secretary of Commerce Dr. Julius Klein:

"Wage cutting not only destroys buying power, but hits consumer morale everywhere. Consumers are just beginning to come out into the buying field again. The splendid showing of department store sales in April proved it.

"But the best way to turn consumers back and make them bury their money in the old sock again is to cut wages.

"It is stupid, in the second place, because wage cutting does not mean curtailment in the cost of manufacturing."

Another report of the same speech states:

"Wage cuts are not only injurious to the actual buying power of those affected, but they are serious blows to consumer morale everywhere.

"Last month was the best April in terms of volume of sales that department stores have had in years. In other words, the buyer is beginning to come out and purchase, a development which has been awaited for months. Wage cuts will disorganize this gain by destroying the confidence on which such buying depends.

"Another angle of the wage reduction question which should be kept in mind is the fallacious belief that labor is the major factor in the cost of manufacturing a product. Labor constitutes only 16.2 per cent of factory costs and a wage cut of 10 per cent when translated into the final production costs means a dif-

ference of only 16 per cent. Truly this is a microscopic saving!"

*Frank H. Neely, of Atlanta, before the National Retail Dry Goods Association:*

"Men will not do an extraordinary day's work for an ordinary day's pay. A properly selected, well installed and ably managed wage payment plan assures benefits to employers, employees and the public alike."

*Ethel M. Johnson, Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industries of Massachusetts:*

"The textile cities have suffered a great deal during the past two years. They have felt the effects of the depression much longer than the rest of the state. They need development. They need new industries. The industries they need, however, are ones that will pay at least a living wage and not take advantage of the distress of persons who are out of work."

*James A. Farrell, president of the U. S. Steel Corporation:*

"It is not honest for us to sell our steel below cost and knock something from our dividend and reduce wages."

*William Green, president, American Federation of Labor:*

"The workers know positively that an early return of normal conditions depends upon the development of a high purchasing power among all classes of people and that this objective can only be reached through the maintenance of existing wage standards."

*Executive Council, American Federation of Labor:*

"The council believes that a wage-cutting policy will positively contribute to a continuation of the existing unemployment situation. \* \* \* What the country needs is the development of buying power, not productive power."

*Secretary of the Treasury Mellon:*

"The American standard of living must be maintained at all costs; and certainly the present is no time to undertake drastic and doubtful experiments which may even conceivably result in breaking down the standard of living to which we have become accustomed."

*Secretary of Commerce Lamont:*

"The most prosperous periods in the nation's history have been those coincident with high wages and shorter hours."

*Rabbi Bricker, Cleveland:*

"The way out of the business depression lies in higher wages, not in lower buying power of workers who are the nation's best customers."

*Colonel Arthur Woods, Chairman, President's Emergency Employment Commission:*

"It would indeed be unfortunate if employers generally took advantage of the

present situation to engage in a wage-slashing movement."

*Arthur P. Sloan, General Motors:*

"There is no idea of general wage-cutting for General Motors for the present."

### Dont's For Householders

If more people would observe the following, they would have less trouble and the efficiency of their lighting system would be greater:

The fuse is electricity's safety valve. Don't overuse!

Don't attempt to replace a fuse in the dark.

Don't change a fuse at all without first opening the service switch.

Don't stand on or near wet floors when attempting to change a fuse.

Lay a dry board or dry folded newspaper down and stand on it.

Don't come in contact with the metal cabinet or other grounded metal work while working with fuses.

A dry cotton glove on the hand is better protection than none at all. Keep one hand behind your back.

Don't touch live metal parts of switches or equipment.

Don't put in a heavier fuse than 15 amperes on lighting branch circuits. Look for the number 15 stamped on the tip or cap.

Don't put pennies or slugs back of fuses under any circumstances! You are only inviting serious trouble.

Don't continue to put in fuses if they keep on blowing. Disconnect all portable appliances from the circuit.

If the trouble is not removed send for a competent union electrician.

Don't handle electrical appliances except by insulated handles, especially on wet floors, near bathtubs, sinks, gas stoves or the like.

Don't continue to use appliances after you get "shocked."

Disconnect from the circuit and send for a union electrician.

Don't allow children to handle electrical apparatus or equipment.

The wiring system is the nerve center of your home. Have a periodical inspection made by a union electrician.

It is more economical to spend a few dollars for minor repairs than to rebuild your home. A life can never be replaced.

Above all, don't take chances with incompetent wiremen—it costs no more to get the best.

When you put in your call, always demand a union electrician.

His organization stands back of his work. If not satisfied get in touch with the officers of the local union.

A close observance of the foregoing rules will save you many dollars and is the best insurance against fire and accident hazards.

A satisfied customer is the best advertisement. Next time you go on the job, leave your calling card or trade mark. Do your work satisfactorily and your services will be in demand. "Skin" the job and you are in for a lot of abuse.

All truth is safe and nothing else is safe; and he who keeps back the truth, or withholds it from men, from motives of expediency, is either a coward or a criminal, or both.—Max Muller.

### Ballad of the Two Dreams

By WALTER H. HENDRICK

How poetry comes is hard to say,  
Mine came by accident one day;  
While working down in Baltimore,  
I fell down on a concrete floor.  
It put me into an awful trance,  
They sent me off in an ambulance.  
I heard St. Peter ring the bell,  
It wasn't Heaven—It was Hell!  
Everything there was hot and red,  
And this is what the Devil said:  
"Here's a wireman who knows his wires;  
Put him to work to fix these fires.  
Over there on that high tension stuff,  
Burn up that scab—he ain't fast enough."  
Says I, "You Devil, are you a fool?  
Can't you see I haven't a tool;  
With a broken arm and almost fried,  
I couldn't work even if I tried."

Shaking with rage, he let out a roar,  
"I hate union men, send down some more."  
He struck my head, time and again;  
I tried to fight, but 'twas in vain.  
He slammed me against a boulder,  
That dislocated my shoulder.  
I kicked him off, I wouldn't desist  
Until he grabbed my broken wrist.  
"Keep still!" I heard Bob Ketler say,  
"You'll be all right in another day."  
I opened my eyes, the room was white;  
I thought I saw an angel all right;  
Then I smelled of something grand  
And passed out to a beautiful land.

\* \* \*

I dreamed this time of an angel fair,  
With pretty blue eyes and golden hair;  
The next I remember was a mission I see  
Of a Spanish type in Los Angeles Countee;  
While on the breeze came orange perfume;  
Fragrance so ambrosial dispels all gloom.  
Out for a ride through plain and valley,  
Past citrus groves, live-oaks and holly,  
Up the canyons climbing toward the sky,  
Where giant sequoias grow 300 feet high.  
There we spread our blanket on the ground,  
With the wild flowers blooming all around.

On a natural carpet of moss and green,  
We ate our lunch mid a wonderful scene.  
I had never known happiness so complete,  
As we found in that mountain retreat.  
I can only express it as felicity,  
Where all was harmony and serenity.  
Near the end of a pleasant day,  
We packed our kit and rode away,  
Down the mountain to cities so clean,  
With their beautiful homes all serene;  
Vineyards, oilfields and missions we passed,  
Along "El Cameo Real," and home at last.  
Tired but happy at the close of day,  
I bade her "au revoir" and drove away.

In from the coast came a fog so dense,  
Of every direction I lost all sense.  
Musing along I came to a curve,  
Another car caused a sudden swerve  
Into a ditch, where the auto now lies,  
Caused by the drops of fog in my eyes.  
My clo'hes torn, injured and sore,  
I raised myself up off the floor.  
Wrecked and alone, I rubbed my head,  
For beside me I found my hospital bed.

### DIAMOND-SHAPED BUTTONS

To wear in your coat lapel,  
carry the emblem and insignia of the I. B. E. W.  
Gold faced and hand-somely enameled \$2.50





# IN MEMORIAM

**Frank G. Amore, L. U. No. 677**

It is with regret and sorrow that Local Union No. 677, I. B. E. W., records the passing from this life of one of its members, Brother Frank G. Amore, a good, true and conscientious union man; therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend our sympathy and condolence to those who remain to mourn his loss; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the official Journal and a copy to the late Brother's family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this local union and the charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

A. M. HORLE,  
L. N. HALL,  
A. R. LANE,  
Committee.

**Edwin Herold, L. U. No. 82**

It is with deep sorrow that we, the members of Local Union No. 82, I. B. E. W., mourn the loss of our esteemed Brother, Edwin Herold.

His noble qualities, kindly spirit, and his loyalty will always be remembered with deep affection by those who knew him best; therefore be it

Resolved by Local Union No. 82, I. B. E. W., of Dayton, Ohio, That our most heartfelt sympathy be extended to the widow and family of our departed Brother, Edwin Herold; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family of our late Brother, Edwin Herold, and a copy be sent to our official Journal, for publication, and a copy be spread upon the minutes of Local Union No. 82, I. B. E. W.

C. W. NEUTZENHOLTZER,  
FRANK MYERS,  
J. W. HOWELL,  
Committee.

Committee.

**International Vice President Abraham Wilson**

Whereas it has pleased the Divine Power to remove from our midst our International Vice President Abraham Wilson; and

Whereas we have lost a true and loyal friend and counselor whose memory will always be sacred to our living Brothers; be it

Resolved, That we drape our charter for a period of 30 days and that copies of this resolution be sent to the bereaved parents of our departed Brother and our official Journal, and that a copy be spread on the minutes of our local union.

R. L. MEEKS,  
R. J. HAMILTON,  
T. A. GOWER,  
W. L. LIGHTSEY,  
R. H. SMITH,  
Committee,  
L. U. No. 108, Tampa, Fla.

**M. J. Mooney, L. U. No. 763**

It is with deepest regret and sorrow that we, the members of Local Union No. 763 mourn the loss by sudden accidental death of our esteemed and faithful Brother and officer, M. J. Mooney; and

Whereas we have suffered the loss of a worthy Brother and capable officer, and one whose life was devoted to our cause and the betterment of humanity in general; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 763, I. B. E. W., express to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy in this their great loss; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the meeting, that a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication and that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

CHAS. NELSON,  
MARTIN W. NELSON,  
GAIL O. BLOCKER,  
Committee.

**International Vice President Abraham Wilson**

Whereas the Creator of all mankind and of all things moves in a mysterious manner; and

Whereas one of our truest and most loyal workers, Abe Wilson, has been removed, and the labor movement loses one of its most valued workers, and profound students, one ambitious to reach a certain goal where the word "Can't" was an impurity of speech, a dissipation of will and the advance agent of adversity; and

Whereas our young Brother's devotion to work and determination to raise his fellow workers out of the "slough of despair", his constant attention to business was the cause of a nervous breakdown, hence his end; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Miami Building Trades Council, in meeting assembled this 28th day of April, 1931, extend to his bereaved family, relatives and associates, our heartfelt sympathy and condolence in this hour of their bereavement; and be it further

Resolved, That as a mark of esteem in which Brother Abe Wilson was held, that the charter be draped for a period of 30 days, a copy be sent to his International Office, a copy be sent to his bereaved relatives and family, a copy be spread on the minutes, and a copy be given to the Miami Labor News.

FORREST BAKER,  
President.  
ALFRED T. POWELL,  
Secretary.  
Miami Building Trades Council.

**J. R. Smith, L. U. No. 6**

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God to take from our midst Brother J. R. Smith, who was for many years a true and loyal member of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W.; and

Whereas the members of Local Union No. 6 deeply feel the loss of Brother J. R. Smith; therefore be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family of our late departed Brother, J. R. Smith; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our late Brother, a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the official Journal and that a copy be spread in full upon the minutes of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W.; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W., be draped for a period of 30 days in respect of the memory of our late Brother, J. R. Smith.

ALBERT E. COHN,  
FRED S. DESMOND,  
CHAS. W. BOWMAN,  
Committee on Resolutions.  
CHAS. B. WEST,  
President.  
CHARLES C. TERRILL,  
Recording Secretary.

**International Vice President Abraham Wilson**

Whereas it has been the will of our Heavenly Father in removing from our ranks Brother A. Wilson, International Vice President, fifth district; and

Whereas the I. B. E. W. has lost from its rank and file a true friend and loyal Brother whose untiring effort and ceaseless activity have been solely for those who toil at the trade and organized labor; therefore be it

Resolved, That L. U. No. 995, I. B. E. W., extend to the bereaved family of Brother Wilson their sincerest condolence in their great loss; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the deceased Brother's family, a copy sent to our official Journal for publication, a copy spread upon the minutes of the meeting, and that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

E. J. BOURG,  
T. R. ROBBINS,  
M. R. POLLARD,  
Committee.

Resolution adopted by L. U. No. 995, Baton Rouge, La.

**International Vice President Abraham Wilson**

Resolution adopted by L. U. No. 349, Miami, Fla.

Whereas God Almighty, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove our Brother, Abe Wilson, International Vice President, one of the finest, most loyal workers whose association our union has been privileged to enjoy; and

Whereas the labor movement loses one of its most ardent workers, one whose interests in labor were paramount to his own, who never missed an opportunity to raise the standards of our union and inspire his Brothers to finer things; therefore be it

Resolved, That Miami Local Union No. 349, in meeting assembled this first day of May, 1931, extend to his bereaved family and associates our deepest sympathy and condolence in this hour of their great sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That as a mark of esteem in which Brother Abe Wilson was held that the charter be draped for a period of 30 days, a copy of this resolution sent to the International Office, one to his bereaved family, a copy spread on the minutes and a copy be sent to the Journal.

SIDNEY H. MEW,  
FRANK G. ROCHE,  
R. H. COLVIN,  
Committee.

**Earl L. White, L. U. No. 17**

It is with deep regret and sorrow that Local No. 17, I. B. E. W., records the passing into the Great Beyond of our worthy Brother, Earl L. White; therefore be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family; and be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, a copy be forwarded to the Worker for publication and a copy be spread upon our minutes; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days, and that we, the members of Local No. 17, I. B. E. W., being lawfully assembled, stand in silence for one minute in further tribute to his memory.

WILLIAM P. FROST,  
SETH WHITE,  
WILLIAM McMAHON,  
Committee.

**Victor A. Hansen, L. U. No. 22**

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our esteemed friend and Brother, Victor A. Hansen

Whereas we have, in the death of Brother Hansen, suffered the loss of a true and faithful worker, whose many good deeds in behalf of his country, his local union and many friends, will long be remembered; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 22, I. B. E. W., of Omaha, Nebraska, extend our most heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved widow and child of our departed Brother; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Brother Hansen, a copy for publication in the official Journal and a copy be spread on the minutes of Local Union No. 22, and that in honor of his memory, our charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

P. E. MALMQVIST,  
C. F. MULLER,  
J. M. GIBB,  
Committee.

**Homer G. Lewis, L. U. No. 575**

Whereas in His infinite wisdom it has pleased the Almighty God to call from our midst a true and loyal Brother, Homer G. Lewis; and

Whereas we, the members of Local Union No. 575, express our deepest sympathy to his family and relatives; and

Whereas in appreciation of such a loyal member who has contributed so much toward the furtherance of our Brotherhood for so many years past; be it

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in memory of our departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the Journal and a copy be spread on the minutes of this local union.

R. L. PRICE,  
H. N. RICHTER,  
E. S. PATTERSON,  
Committee.

**James E. Markey, L. U. No. 17**

Whereas the Almighty, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from our midst Brother James E. Markey; and

Whereas Brother Markey was a true and loyal member of our local union; therefore be it

Resolved, That this local extend to the family of Brother Markey our heartfelt sympathy during their hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of the I. B. E. W. be draped for a period of 30 days; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this local union, a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the official Journal and a copy be sent to the family of the late Brother Markey.

WILLIAM P. FROST,  
SETH WHITE,  
WILLIAM McMAHON,  
Committee.

**J. M. Brown, L. U. No. 1141**

Whereas Almighty God, in His supreme wisdom, has seen fit to remove from our midst our worthy Brother, J. M. Brown; and

Whereas it is with deep sorrow that the members of Local No. 1141, I. B. E. W., mourn his passing; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 1141, of Oklahoma City, Okla., extend our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved widow of our departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our late Brother Brown and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication and a copy spread upon the minutes of Local No. 1141 of Oklahoma City.

TOM M. RUSHING,  
W. J. MELTON,  
C. H. HARDY,  
Committee.

**Michael Butler, L. U. No. 817**

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God to take from our midst Brother Michael Butler, many years a true and loyal member of the I. B. E. W. and Local Union No. 817, has lost a highly respected member; therefore be it

Resolved, That our charter be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days, that a copy of this resolution be sent to his bereaved family, a copy be sent to our International Journal for publication and a copy be spread on our minutes of this meeting.

F. PANZER,  
Secretary.

**Howard Mowery, L. U. No. 686**

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst our esteemed and worthy Brother, Howard Mowery; and

Whereas in the death of Brother Mowery Local Union No. 686, I. B. E. W., has lost one of its true and devoted members; be it therefore

Resolved, That Local Union No. 686 recognized its great loss in the passing of Brother Mowery and hereby expresses its appreciation of his services to the cause of our Brotherhood; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on the minutes of our Local Union No. 686, and a copy be sent to the official Journal of our Brotherhood for publication.

H. J. STEVENS,  
J. SWANSON,  
H. SCHNEIDER,  
Committee.

**John Fogarty, L. U. No. 1036**

Whereas the members of Local Union No. 1036, I. B. E. W., Jackson, Mich., deeply regret the passing of our good friend and Brother, John Fogarty; therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to his many friends; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for 30 days in memory of our Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread on our minutes and a copy be sent to the Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy be sent to Mrs. Helen Fogarty, wife of the departed Brother.

MELVIN BREWER,  
MAURICE DUNN,  
HAYDEN BEATTY,  
Committee.

**Bro. "Abe" Wilson, International Vice President, "Rest in Peace"**

He died where he loved to live, in his beloved Miami, his life task incomplete.

We, who knew him best, have left but a haunting sense of loss, a poignant memory, of something gone in the past.

His life came to a close, while the ideals, and charm of youth, were still strong within him.

The philosophy of organized labor which he taught, drew to it all the vigor of his intellect. Power of personal character, unbinding virtue, and lofty genius, were his in unstinted measure.

He tried to seek happiness in things that lay without himself, but in rendering service to others his spirit was broken on the wheel of man's inhumanity to man, which he so earnestly tried to correct.

We beseech the God-Head to grant to him that rest which he sought so vainly in this life, that an untroubled sun for Abe, be allowed to rise.

"Lo! now a new world apparent all aslant the dewbright earth and colored air  
He looks in boundless majesty abroad."

EXECUTIVE BOARD,  
L. U. No. 349.

**William E. Fish, L. U. No. 292**

It is with sincerest regret and deepest sorrow that the members of Local Union No. 292, I. B. E. W., Minneapolis, record the passing of our esteemed Brother, William E. Fish, who died of tuberculosis on April 3, 1931, the Brother having been a sufferer from the dread disease for the past five or six years.

Brother Fish was born at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on September 21, 1878, and became a member of Local No. 292 November 28, 1913. He always had the welfare of the local at heart and was active in its affairs, having served one term as president and one term as chairman of the executive board, and was a loyal and active Brother in continuous good standing during his entire membership.

Brother Fish was a true unionist, both in spirit and in practice, and we, the members of Local Union No. 292, profoundly mourn the loss of our dear and honored Brother and wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to his mother, who it appears is his only surviving relative.

W. WAPLES,  
Press Secretary, L. U. No. 292.

**William Johnson, L. U. No. 15**

It is with sorrow that we, the members of Local Union No. 15, I. B. E. W., mourn the loss of our esteemed Brother, William Johnson. His noble qualities, kindly spirit, and his loyalty will always be remembered with deep affection by those who knew him best; therefore be it

Resolved, by Local Union No. 15, I. B. E. W., of Jersey City, that our heartfelt sympathy be extended to the sister of our departed Brother, William Johnson; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for the period of 30 days and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved sister of our late Brother, William Johnson, and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication, and a copy be spread upon the minutes of Local Union No. 15, I. B. E. W.

R. A. McDONALD,  
Financial Secretary.

**Charles D. Dugan, L. U. No. 26  
(Government Branch)**

It is with deep sorrow that the membership of our local marks the passing of our friend and brother, Charles D. Dugan.

During his three years of service with us, his record as a worker and his character as a man were both of that quality which is never-failing in winning a lasting love and respect from fellow workers; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local No. 26, Governmental Branch, extend to his family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy be forwarded to our official Journal for publication, and a copy be spread on the minutes of our local; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

EARL GRIGGS,  
JOHN F. SULLENDER,  
W. A. JONES,  
Committee.

**Alfred F. Bergstrom, L. U. No. 125**

Whereas in His infinite wisdom it has pleased the Almighty God to call from our midst a true and loyal Brother, Alfred Frank Bergstrom.

Whereas we, the members of Local Union No. 125, express our deepest sympathy to his bereaved family; be it

Resolved, That the charter be draped for a period of 30 days in memory of our departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the International Office for publication in the Journal, and a copy be spread on the minutes of this local union, and a copy be sent to the bereaved family.

DALE B. SIGLER,  
R. I. CLAYTON,  
MERLE D. A. CARR,  
Committee.

**DEATH CLAIMS PAID FROM MAY 1  
INCLUDING MAY 31, 1931**

L. L. No.	Name	Amount
677	F. G. Amore	\$650.00
17	Jas. Markey	1,000.00
I. O.	J. W. Murray	1,000.00
5	E. A. Smerker	1,000.00
22	V. Hansen	1,000.00
9	A. J. McGregor	1,000.00
I. O.	D. Hoffman	1,000.00
1036	John Fogarty	1,000.00
17	E. L. White	650.00
9	J. T. Gegan	475.00
817	M. M. Butler	1,000.00
134	A. J. Smith	1,000.00
15	Wm. Johnson	1,000.00
686	H. Mowery	1,000.00
134	B. J. Boyle	1,000.00
1	John Schraedel, Sr.	1,000.00
349	A. Wilson	1,000.00
103	W. M. Potterton	1,000.00
9	T. P. Riley	1,000.00
557	T. J. Nelson	525.00
763	M. J. Mooney	1,000.00
151	A. V. Heinrich	1,000.00
134	A. J. O'Grady	1,000.00
104	P. J. O'Connell	475.00
1	L. J. Hespen	1,000.00
684	Ora Russell	1,000.00
125	J. Poffenberger	1,000.00
3	H. F. Alexander	1,000.00
3	G. J. Meyer	1,000.00
3	J. S. Garrigan	1,000.00
3	Elix Dauzige	825.00
17	J. A. Chouinard	825.00
195	John Devine	1,000.00
38	Jos. Kovac	825.00
		\$31,250.00

Total claims paid from May 1  
including May 31, 1931 \$31,250.00

Total claims previously paid 2,297,661.10

Total claims paid \$2,328,911.10

The bound volumes of the 1930 Electrical Workers Journal are to be sold again this year for \$3.75 postage prepaid. They are uniform with the volumes of other years, one-fourth leather, handsome and durable.

**ATTENTION, SCRIBES**

It will convenience this office very much if all copy for the July issue, be in our hands by June 24—one week earlier than usual.

# THE FAMILY GROUP—HOW AND WHY



THE Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, by its own methods, provides life insurance in a maximum amount of \$1,000.00 for its members. This insurance is provided through an incorporated fraternal insurance association known as the Electrical Workers Benefit Association, and limits its coverage to members of the Brotherhood.

The Brotherhood also provides a pension of \$42.00 per month to all members who attain the age of 65 and have 20 years' good standing in the organization.

These two benefits covered the member himself, and it was a matter of study for some years how an insurance policy could be written to give the families of members

of the Brotherhood the advantage of good insurance at a reasonable cost.

Finally, after much planning—so as to get all rates figured down to a minimum cost—the Family Group was designed. It is written direct in blanket form to cover the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers by the insurance company. There are no agents' commissions, and the policies must be secured through the International Office. Thus the insured are given the full benefit of the low rate of

## ONE PENNY A DAY.

No applications are accepted unless applicants are related to members of the Brotherhood in good standing. Use the application on reverse page and write us for more.



Next month we will tell you the money value of I. B. E. W. membership—what it means to you in dollars and cents. Watch for it!

# APPLICATION FOR INSURANCE ELECTRICAL WORKERS' FAMILY POLICY

Cut Here

UNION COOPERATIVE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION,  
Washington, D. C.

I certify that I am the ..... of ..... a member  
of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union No. ...., and I hereby apply for.....  
units or \$..... life insurance, and will pay \$..... each.....  
(Year, half-year, quarter or month)  
for same.

I certify that I have no impairment in my health or physical condition, and have no deformity, except.....

(State any exceptions)

Date of Birth..... Occupation ..... Race .....  
(Month-Day-Year)

Birthplace ..... Sex .....

Beneficiary ..... Relationship .....  
(State full name and relationship of person to whom insurance is to be paid at your death)

Address of Beneficiary.....

My name is.....  
(Print your name in full—not initials. If married use own name, such as "Helen Smith" and not husband's name, as  
"Mrs. James Smith")

My address is.....  
(Street and number—City and State)

Date.....  
(Signature in full)

## QUESTIONS BELOW TO BE ANSWERED IF APPLICANT IS A MINOR

1. Father of Child.	Full Name	Birthplace
	Birth Date	Occupation
2. Mother of Child.	Full Name	Birthplace
	Birth Date	Occupation
3. Premiums will be paid by:	Name	
	Address	

(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

(The Union Cooperative Insurance Association reserves the right to reject any applicant for this insurance for any cause whatever and in case of rejection will return to the applicant the full amount of the payment forwarded with this application. The insurance will become effective on date issued by the Union Cooperative Insurance Association at its Home Office in Washington, D. C.)

**NOTE: Age limits, 1 to 50 years. Issued in units of \$250.00. Limit of insurance for any one person: Ages 1-5, inclusive—\$250.00. Ages 6-50, inclusive—\$500.00.**

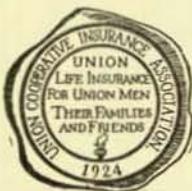
**Cost per unit: If paid annually, \$3.60; Semi-annually, \$1.80; Quarterly, 90 cents; Monthly, 30 cents or "Penny a Day."**

Receipts issued for premium payments will show date next payment is due. No additional premium notices will be sent.

Make Checks Payable to  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD of ELECTRICAL WORKERS  
G. M. Bugnajet

and Send with Application to International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Washington, D. C.

(Family Group Policy—Application Copyright, 1928, J. R. Biggs)



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## PSYCHOLOGICAL ORGANIZATION OF WIVES NEEDED

(Continued from page 296)

The union scale of wages ranges from \$8 to \$12 per day, while in the unorganized field the wages paid for the same class of work are from \$4.80 to \$6.40 per day; a difference between the two extremes of \$7.20, or an average difference of \$4.40 per day. This is not an unusual case, but is quite general throughout the country, and like conditions are found in every other line of industry. Neither is this condition confined to different localities in one state, but there is to be found a number of different scales in the same city. In one city in this state, where the union scale is \$10 per day, wages among non-union men in the same trade are from \$6.80 to \$7.20 for the same work and hours. If any doubt existed in your minds as to the benefits of membership in the union, certainly this should dispel any such doubt. Another fact to be considered, is that whenever an organization exists, the wages of non-union workers would be still lower if no such organization were there and if there were no non-union men, the wages paid to union men would be more. The employer uses the unorganized as a club over the organized in order to keep wages down to a minimum and because of the unfair attitude of some employers, the fair employer is placed at a disadvantage in meeting this kind of competition. It is also true that some employers do pay the union scale of wages, although their men do not affiliate with the organization, in order to keep the men they have from becoming members. The non-union man who receives the benefits of the work of the organization, yet does not join and help to maintain it, has something lacking in his makeup. He is in the same class with the tax dodger who is willing to accept all the benefits of the other fellow's effort, but too selfish to share in the expense necessary to secure the benefits derived by all. He is a stumbling block in the path of progress, and like the tramp who rides the "blind," he gets there without paying his fare, but doesn't stop to consider that if it were not for the fare paying passengers, there would not be any train to ride. This type we shall probably always have with us and more credit is due the union for the progress they are making in spite of this obstacle.

Recently the wife of one of these "parasites" remarked to the wife of a member, "my husband is an electrician, too, and he gets just as much as yours does, and he doesn't pay any dues." Quite true, as we found, but how much would this individual be getting if it were not for the organization? We venture to say that he would probably receive just what the boss wanted to pay him, which would be considerably less than he receives because we happen to know that his employer is one who advocates a reduction in wages. Heaven help this kind, "there are none so blind as they that will not see." There are many who

be grudge the money they spend for dues, who don't seem to realize that the money spent this way is one of the best investments that any man or woman can make. Just to prove this statement, let us do a simple problem in arithmetic, which may be applied to any number of the thousands of members of this Brotherhood.

### Mathematics of Advantages

We shall assume that an electrician joins the union at age 25, after he has served his apprenticeship, and that the local union has fairly good conditions already established. He would probably pay an initiation fee of \$100, because membership in an organization that has established conditions through hard work and many sacrifices is worth something to the members coming in, who immediately begin to receive the rewards for the efforts of those who have been there and helped to make the conditions for him. Assume that his dues are \$72 per year which is a fair average. If at the end of the first year, he has continued his membership in good standing, his insurance alone, in case of his death, would be more than his membership had cost, including the entrance fee. This benefit increases each year \$175 until the end of the fifth year when it reaches the maximum of \$1,000. If he continues his membership until he reaches the retiring age of 65, it would have cost him for dues, and initiation, plus a charge of 4 per cent on his original investment, a total of \$3,140. If he retires from the trade and has maintained his continuous good standing he would be entitled to receive a pension of \$40 per month in cash for the balance of his life. Assume that he did retire and lived for only five years, or till age 70, he would have received in pension benefits in 5 years \$2,400. His heirs would also receive his benefit from the benefit association, which is maintained for him after retirement at no cost to him, an additional \$1,000. This would be an amount equal to \$260 more than his membership had cost during his whole lifetime. If he had retired from the trade before reaching the age of 65, his membership could have been carried at a cost of only \$24 per year and he would have received exactly the same benefits as if he had continued to pay dues to the local union.

And bear in mind that we have not taken into consideration the several increases in pay that he would have received, nor the fact that he was being paid for every hour he worked, a dividend amounting to the difference between the union and the non-union wage; also that the conditions under which he worked were such that he had more time for recreation; that by reason of his membership he had enjoyed more of the benefits of his labor and was able to provide his family with many things which would not have been possible if he had depended upon his individual efforts. Just one increase in pay of 10c per hour, if he worked 225 days in a year would amount to \$180, which is more than

twice as much as he paid in dues each year. If, as an individual, he did not provide for old age annuity, which is provided by this organization, what would become of him in his declining years? Probably dependent upon relatives or the state.

There are many other forms of insurance that are available to members and their families that cannot be obtained by any except members or relatives, and the rates are such that no other policy obtainable can equal them in price. In the face of these facts it is inconceivable how anyone can inadvertently try to mislead you into believing that "it costs too much to belong to a union." When sickness, disability or unemployment, to which we are all more or less subjected, overtakes us and causes us to feel oppressed and sometimes lose faith with everything in general, to whom do we look for succor? Do we appeal to the banker, chamber of commerce, the Church or lodge? Not if we belong to a labor organization. We go where we know we will receive material aid and sympathy; to our own kind of people whom we know are sympathetic, because they have been through the same kind of trouble and can understand our language. Our first thought in times of adversity is of the organization that protects our means of livelihood, that fights our battles and helps us to overcome the obstacles that are confronting us. Many other benefits that we are disposed to take as a matter of course, come to us only as a result of someone's efforts. Sanitary workshops, safety laws, laws regulating the hours and conditions of labor in industry, child labor legislation, free text books in the public schools, workmen's compensation, federal aid for trade extension schools, and many other measures that are enjoyed by everyone, are not enacted into law by accident.

### Union Co-operation Works

Only through the combined efforts of the organized labor movement have these measures been brought about. Children have been removed from the mines, mills and factories and placed in the school rooms, and in their places are mature men and women who are able to earn sufficient to keep them there, because organized labor has consistently fought for the right of every worker to enjoy some of the advantages that before were open only to those who reaped the benefits of the capital created by the hands of labor. ("Capital is the fruit of labor, and could not exist if labor had not first existed. Labor, therefore, deserves much the higher consideration." —Abraham Lincoln.)

Our members are able to qualify for the better positions open in the trade because study and close application to the work are the qualifications necessary for membership. Through classes provided, either by the organizations or in the trade extension schools provided for under the Smith-Hughes act, they are able to continue their education, which may have been curtailed during their earlier years because of lack of funds.

The best jobs in the country are available to union mechanics because of this training, and the majority of the largest and most successful electrical contracting firms recognize ability and employ members of this Brotherhood exclusively on their work. Through the traveling card privilege, members may follow the work by transferring from one local union to another, regardless of whether the work is in Canada, the United States or her possessions. The organization or its work is not confined to any particular locality, but is international in its scope, and from the International Office located in our own building at Washington, D. C., is directed the task of carrying on the business of this great organization of electrical workers. Through this office, which conducts also a research department, our members are kept in close touch with conditions of the industry throughout the North American continent. Representatives, working under the direction of President Broach, are able to secure a vast amount of work through the influence of the organization.

The crisis through which we are passing now is caused, not by lack of money, but by the unequal distribution of the wealth of the richest nation on earth. One of the aims of organized labor is to assist in ironing out the curves of the business cycles. We have entered into the machine age, where the vast amount of machinery and labor saving devices, threaten to crush the life out of the bodies and minds of the people who created the machine. There was a time when man was master of the machine, but this has been reversed and now man has become a slave to the machine which he created out of his brain. One man now produces, with the aid of machines, what it formerly required hundreds to produce by hand, and wars and pestilence have not been able to reduce the number sufficiently to equalize the law of supply and demand. For several years past, machines have turned out commodities faster than they were consumed; not that there was not a potential market for them, but because labor did not receive enough of the wealth created by his efforts, to buy a reasonable part of the product of his own labor, thus keeping down the surplus production. If every person in the country were in possession of their share of the per capita wealth, the unemployment problem would be solved overnight. Everyone would become a consumer and the goods would move from the shelves of the merchants; factories would resume operations to replace the stocks, and industry would again become normal. But to resume under the same system as that which led up to the present condition, would only recreate a like condition within another short cycle. The only solution is to reduce the hours of labor so that every one who wants to work would have a job, and receive enough compensation so that he would be able to buy an equitable share of the products of his toil. Organized labor is striving to bring about such a condition, but they are

hampered by the unorganized, by the low wage employer and others who oppose us. If every person who depends upon his labor for his livelihood could be enlightened and those who employ labor were awake to the fact that without the wages of labor, no part of the nation can prosper, the return of prosperity would be certain. Some employers have been able to see this and have acted to bring about this condition; others are as blind as the unorganized workers who have refused to fall in line and push instead of riding on the backs of the union men and women who are trying to pull every human being out of the slough of despondency.

To the women of the labor movement of America and especially the members of the families of union men, we are looking for support of our plans. You have made wonderful progress and for your noble efforts we congratulate you. May your dream of a nation-wide auxiliary come true.

#### SALLY LUNN TAKES B. & O. CRACK TRAIN

(Continued from page 293)

lamps, instead of the usual ceiling illumination. There is a little observation car at one end of the parlor car, with comfortable upholstered reed furniture.

The lounge car, which is really a smoking car de luxe, is divided into two sections. Lamps, tables, magazines, and business-like brass ash trays are scattered hospitably. On the women's side there are deep, restful chairs with striped linen slip covers that make the car look as cool as it really is. At each end of the car are game tables with inset checker boards and I suppose the porter will bring out the checkers if you ask him. The men's side of the lounge has the smartest of brown leather chairs with loose cushions piped in green leather, fashioned for the utmost ease and restfulness. A patterned axminster carpet stretches from wall to wall, and there are writing desks, equipped with telephones, which are plugged in while the car is at the station. The walls are finished in a delicate shade of green with stenciled decorations.

In the dining car, the linens, silver and glass are so clean that they sparkle. Dining on the Columbian is an adventure in complete satisfaction. The cool temperature makes you appreciate to the utmost the delicious meals and the smiling service for which the B. and O. is famous. It's like dining at a fine private club—as we proletarians imagine that experience would be.

This is not an extra fare train, by the way. You may travel on the parlor car

or lounge car for regular pullman rates. But if you can't afford the parlor car, there is a day coach and a smoker and you can be economical without sacrificing your comfort in the least. Even the day coach is elegant. The double chairs are upholstered in green mohair and are equipped with adjustable backs that can be raised or lowered as you desire. The smoking car is similar, but with leather covered chairs.

Even if you don't want to go anywhere, if you are living in New York or Washington or Philadelphia, you ought to take a ride on the Columbian, just for the experience, to show yourself how luxurious modern railroad travel can be—the B. and O. way.

#### MATHEMATICS AS A TOOL OF TRADE

(Continued from page 292)

7. Estimating power
8. Subtraction of signed numbers and removal of parenthesis
9. Multiplication and division of signed numbers
10. Square root. Use of the formula
11. Multiplication and division of polynomials
12. Angles, areas and volumes
13. Factoring, solution of quadratic equations
14. The slide rule
15. Parallel circuits
16. Electric machine power problem solutions
17. Solution of literal equations
18. Solution of simultaneous equations
19. Kirchoff's law
20. Ratio and proportion (advanced)
21. Similar figures. Trigonometric functions
22. Fundamental A. C. calculations
23. B. & S. wire gauge and wire areas
24. Table of natural sines, cosines, cotangents of angles from 0 to 90.

The foregoing is rigidly compiled from a long experience.

#### ATTENTION MOTOR REPAIRMEN

Just what you have been looking for. 110 different standard motor connections. For 1, 2 and 3-phase motors from 2 to 12 poles. Several two-voltage and two-speed connections included. These are not blueprints. They are made by a special process that shows each phasewinding in a different color, which makes tracing very easy. Several standard transformer connections added free. The entire set sent postpaid for only five dollars. Write for free sample.

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## DEPRESSION DRAGS ITS SLOW LENGTH ALONG

(Continued from page 297)

made. European exporters pressed for money demanded immediate settlement in gold from their American customers. Due to deflation of American money it was difficult for American debtors to meet these demands of their English creditors. A wild scramble to procure gold from the banks followed. In order to meet these demands the banks were forced to call in their huge loans. The banks' debtors could not fully meet their loans, thereby causing liquidation and depression all along the line with the public eventually the goat in the bargain along with most of the country's gold moving to England in payment of debts.

### Gold On Move Again

In some cases where re-discount rates vary, the trade balance in gold moves to the country offering the higher re-discount rate. At present the United States holds over half the world's gold supply and enjoys an exceedingly respectful position in the eyes of the remaining world powers. At this writing (May 9) our re-discount rate stands at 1 per cent, the lowest percentage in recent years. Consequently a certain amount of gold is bound to move out of the country to whichever country offers more attractive re-discount rates. The purpose of lowering our re-discount rates is to encourage the borrowing of money, which at this time is plentiful, for constructive purposes. In the matter of credit this country today is just in a reverse position to that which existed during the panic of 1837, even in spite of our present depression. We are Europe's creditors to the tune of over \$10,000,000,000, which incidentally accounts in part for our huge gold supply. What would happen if this country demanded immediate payment in full from its European debtors with Europe experiencing a depression even worse than ours? The reader can easily guess.

It is interesting to note how governmental influence revolves around the chief factors of any depression. This influence has made itself manifest in a number of ways. History has proven that government evidently makes final disposition of the important situations and tendencies existing in depressions.

Because private bankers could not properly handle the government's financial affairs caused the government to establish an independent treasury system in 1840. During the panic of the 70's the government instituted the Interstate Commerce Commission in its attempt to inject some semblance of order into the chaotic condition of railroad competition. Again the severe cut-throat competition amongst manufacturers who created huge trusts caused the government to enact Anti-Trust laws after the panics of 1873 and 1893.

Wage earners and the government therefore play an important role in any depression and it seems peculiar that industrial leaders do not take a greater

interest in these two all powerful factors and do something about it.

While the current depression is very severe it by no means has stepped out of bounds, thanks to good fortune and the strong financial condition of the nation and its industries in control of those who have governed wisely.

At this writing the question of wage reduction seems to be of paramount importance amongst the principal industrialists. To cut or not to cut seems to have developed into a profound desire to cut due to greatly decreased profits and in many cases large deficits. Whether general wage slashing comes about remains to be seen. If it does occur the return to prosperity may be expected to take a while longer.

Evidently the government's policy in the matter of maintaining the wage level and retention of employees during periods of unemployment has been followed by a number of the nation's industrial leaders. Some of them are following the idea of providing for their future, as well as their present, unemployed, by creating various unemployment insurance funds. The creation of these funds is made with the intention of disbursing them to unemployed members in periods of depression.

Another interesting factor in our present depression is the demand for a reduction in our present tariff rates to allow an increased sale of our products to foreign countries. Question of tariff always has been bitterly contested by our legislatures due to the impossibility to satisfy those for and against because American industry is too diversified and sectional to satisfy both sides.

Economists and business leaders seem to agree that a slight upturn in business is evident and that the upward swing is progressing. However, people cannot hold off buying forever. They must supply their necessary wants and as buying power is gradually restored some semblance of prosperity will return.

Whether our future prosperity will be confined within certain limits in view of Russia's tremendous efforts in making successful its five-year plan also remains to be seen. Should Russia succeed she will no doubt supply the requirements of continental Europe and carry on considerable so-called dumping in the world's markets. What effect this will have on New York as a seaport in relation to Chicago's gradual growth through inland trade dominance will also be an interesting situation to watch.

The question arises that since our present form of government plays an important part in depressions, what result will Russia's form of government have upon future depressions? Here are two governments operating under very different methods in their guidance of two large masses of peoples. Two nations gifted with nearly all material resources for self-maintenance. Which, then, of the two governments will in the future solve and prevent future depressions? This latter question should prove of considerable importance to all wage earners and their future progeny.

## SECRETARY OUTLINES POSITION ON WAGE CUTS

(Continued from page 298)

to resist wage reductions. The executive council proposes to appeal to the workers to stand firmly in opposition to wage reductions. The council will urge working men and women, both organized and unorganized, to resist to the fullest extent any and all attempts to reduce wages and lower American living standards. In urging that workers take this position the council is inspired by a firm conviction that it is only a step from reductions in wages to continuous, permanent unemployment."

## RADIO

(Continued from page 310)

The television artists are scanned or analyzed for television transmission by one of two methods: first, the flying spot; secondly, the camera. In the case of the flying spot, the subject is swept by a sharp and intense spot of light, line by line, horizontally from left to right and top to bottom. The present television stations are employing the 48-line, 15-pictures-per-second scanning and also the 60-line, 20-pictures-per-second scanning. The latter provides somewhat better detail and materially reduces the flicker. As the flying spot sweeps the subject, the reflected light at any given moment is picked up by two groups of photo-electric cells placed in front and somewhat to each side. The varying amount of light intercepted by the photo-electric cells is translated into corresponding electrical terms, amplified hundreds of thousands of times and impressed on the outgoing television signals.

The flying spot while in general use today, has obvious drawbacks, mainly by way of intense and undesirable shadows. The usual flying spot pick-up pictures are too black in spots, due to the inability of the flying spot to get around the corners of the subject. Obviously, a flood lighting arrangement would be more satisfactory, providing some method of scanning or breaking the image down into convenient pictorial components, could be introduced. Fortunately, this is exactly the purpose of the television camera.

In the television camera pick-up the subject is flood lighted. In the DeForest television studio, W2XCR, at Passaic, N. J., nine kilowatts of illumination, making use of stereopticon type lamps, is employed to flood light a very small stage measuring only eight feet wide. Since the photo-electric cell is sensitive to red light, the lamps are covered with red screens, making the intense illumination easier on the eyes of the players. The latter stand behind a frame arch which carries the lights and masks them from the camera out front.

### Photo-Electric Cell Useful

The television camera is simply a combination of lens which focuses the image on a whirling scanning disc, behind which is a photo-electric cell. The camera also includes the amplifier and a battery box. A flexible cable connects the camera with the modulator of the television transmitter. The subject being flood lighted, there are no troublesome shadows. The only drawback is the need for greater amplification, since only a single photo-electric cell is employed in this pick-up, as contrasted with as many as twelve cells in the flying spot pick-up. This drawback has been overcome by the development of improved am-

plifiers, and the placing of the amplifying equipment directly behind the cell.

To the average layman, it seems unbelievable that the synchronizing of pictures and sounds, transmitted through two separate stations, should be the simplest part of the achievement. Indeed, it is really automatic. When the subject faces scanner pick-up and microphone, the image and sound are picked up in perfect step. Since electricity is almost instantaneous in its travels, the image and sound signals are handled by their respective channels without practical delay. They are in perfect step at the home end and must therefore be reproduced in perfect synchronism. The situation is quite different from that obtaining in the talkies employing film and disc, in which case the two functions must be kept in proper step by mechanical means.

We are constantly being told by certain radio interests that television is not yet here—that it is five years away—that when it is ready it will be presented to us by a given group of interests. Perhaps such statements are justified, for there is much room for disagreement as to what constitutes television entertainment. Those who consider home television entertainment as nothing short of pictures of an entire play, in clean-cut detail and natural colors, can hardly take the present efforts seriously. On the other hand those contented with showing a fair approximation of the face or faces of one or two entertainers heard over the usual loud-speaker, know that television is already here, in usable, marketable form.

The Jenkins television station, W2XCR, on Fifth Avenue, New York City, operating with sound channel WGBS, has inaugurated its daily programs with a three-hour initial program presenting the greatest array of talent ever included in a single broadcast program. The Western Television Corporation is broadcasting sight and sound programs regularly from Chicago stations. The Short-Wave and Television Corporation of Boston is also on the air daily with sight-and-sound programs.

Make no mistake about it. Television is here. And what is more, it is receiving the co-operation of some mighty forward-looking broadcasters so as to include the very essential sound accompaniment.

#### INVENTS MACHINE TO AID WORLD GATHERINGS

(Continued from page 300)

and improve the units of the Filene-Finlay system. The company will also create a corps of translators especially trained for the exacting work of simultaneous translation.

The system has already been successfully used at the International Chamber of Commerce convention just concluded at Washington, at the League of Nations headquarters in Geneva, at an international good roads conference held at Washington recently and at the international convention of the blind held recently in New York. The next two systems to be installed by International Business Machines Corporation will be at the Permanent Court of International Justice at the Hague, Holland, and at the League of Nations Headquarters at Geneva, Switzerland.

There exists no cure for a heart wounded with the sword of separation.—Hitopadesa.

#### STATES STRUGGLE WITH POWER PROBLEMS

(Continued from page 295)

nomic life of Wisconsin so that it can successfully compete with the economic life of any other state in America.

"Wisconsin's power program, if adopted, does not put the state or any of its municipalities into the power business. It does give them the right to go into the power business, if that should be necessary in order to attain the objective, namely, of securing this basic essential to the economic life of Wisconsin."

#### Pennsylvania

Governor Pinchot has been making an investigation of the financial structure of utility corporations. The Duquesne Power Company of Pittsburgh has been cited to defend itself in criminal proceedings before a grand jury. The Philadelphia Electric Light, another large concern, is also booked to answer criminal charges. The Penn Central Power Company, which dominates the interior counties of the state, including the great coal fields, is likewise charged with serious irregularities. In addition, there are a number of lesser companies which are to have an opportunity to explain why they permitted greed for

profits to lead them from the path of rectitude.

#### Ohio

Conservative Ohio has, through its attorney-general, made radical assertions about public utility control of state affairs.

#### New Hampshire

Following an extended survey of utilities last year, New Hampshire is seeking a new rate law.

#### Other States

Vermont, Oregon, Florida and South Carolina, are occupied with taxing of public utilities. South Carolina, Vermont and Idaho have new tax laws which levy taxes on horsepower developed.

Georgia is considering new laws permitting easy municipal ownership.

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**LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL RECEIPTS FROM APRIL 11 TO  
MAY 10, 1931**

L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	
1. O.	24957	26315	60	229681	229780	139	788538	788576	262	164483
1.	211568	212250	62	664020	664032	141	16304	16330	262	14712
1.	132801	132811	64	683238	683251	143	301410	301435	263	33993
1.	300017	64	6063	6068	143	8769	8773	265	263269	
1.	963765	963770	64	188953	189000	145	230403	230471	267	60910
1.	62583	62867	64	42751	42847	145	32108	32108	268	417455
1.	2538	2548	65	274571	274770	146	988767	988775	269	235588
2.	297791	297940	66	234301	234580	151	101518	101740	270	681622
2.	144752	144752	66	34515	34520	152	576532	576550	271	73861
3.	Series A.J.	4186-4200	67	30085	30108	153	931352	931548	275	518198
3.	"	4385-4400	68	146245	146266	154	841850	841860	275	32269
3.	"	4414-4451	68	170182	170227	155	299766	299780	278	410727
3.	" A.	2-H. 6	68	59407	59408	156	35822	35860	280	262928
3.	" A. 4-H.	1073-1081	70	659074	659081	158	830584	830599	283	701669
3.	" B.J.	81	72	958311	958317	159	110855	110886	284	942342
3.	" C.J.	166-171	73	22208	22208	160	623127	623127	284	6602
3.	" O.A.	293-334	73	340851	340919	160	17704	17704	284	4201
3.	" X.G.	1444-1450	73	15903	15904	161	12682	12696	285	38742
3.	" X.G.	1209-1216	75	647676	647687	164	119251	119510	286	639393
4.	39006	39014	76	24305	163489	164	163500	163500	288	96924
5.	251251	251830	76	103827	103889	164	42091	42129	290	5743
5.	244241	244500	77	212569	212728	164	8754	8769	291	527934
6.	141026	141036	77	24655	24656	165	654636	654646	292	337121
6.	209051	209191	79	302662	302700	169	673870	673878	292	261160
8.	173393	173456	79	243001	243049	173	23190	23205	293	660643
8.	19201	19203	81	180187	180256	174	620054	620070	295	31263
9.	140931	141730	82	200607	200710	177	15137	15183	296	18631
10.	80403	80403	83	224876	225000	177	6319	6323	300	966821
10.	20715	20736	83	20770	20777	180	164571	164623	301	145503
11.	247550	247863	83	275251	275508	180	48616	48617	301	670693
11.	80701	80705	84	127265	127375	181	194685	194751	301	273751
14.	36913	36926	86	7831	7836	184	444296	444305	302	1204
15.	863866	863874	86	167786	167976	184	150901	150904	302	24901
16.	671531	671545	86	190711	190798	186	34523	34533	302	702940
17.	282001	282330	90	108592	108696	186	201751	201751	302	25826
17.	227251	228000	90	6995	188	432426	432428	305	27403	
17.	221161	224250	93	934951	934959	188	75316	75321	306	7424
17.	50750	50757	95	558589	558598	190	34829	34845	306	28204
18.	24344	24350	96	18624	18628	191	259959	259981	307	680715
18.	14227	14255	96	186884	186951	193	37626	37673	308	158820
18.	139011	139402	96	12728	12770	194	260257	260300	308	11101
20.	184544	184640	100	108134	108163	194	11	12	309	120630
20.	192051	192059	101	574493	574500	194	24916	24917	309	145969
20.	67681	67689	101	284251	284255	195	336407	336450	311	25534
21.	635231	635247	102	8117	8118	195	297751	297808	311	116928
22.	107621	107721	103	126422	126454	196	960298	960328	312	11670
22.	63061	63070	103	46356	46509	197	583899	583707	312	63601
26.	162412	162485	103	31513	31514	201	18020	18024	313	3898
26.	238251	238500	104	174471	174590	204	237045	237078	313	21001
26.	195907	195918	105	136261	136315	205	174133	174142	314	307403
27.	869093	869111	105	69003	69004	210	183195	183276	317	112642
28.	104466	104472	105	189316	189328	211	41401	41430	318	61801
28.	8569	8611	107	5612	5666	211	12307	12307	319	114395
28.	36333	36373	108	117111	117138	211	133056	133072	321	706871
32.	597004	597010	108	189901	189911	212	98306	98490	323	2290
33.	441728	441731	109	41108	41120	212	26623	26679	323	2730
34.	195014	195109	110	93564	93664	212	91726	91734	324	43501
34.	60080	60124	110	138758	138759	213	45322	45387	324	199951
35.	109603	109721	111	259253	259259	213	180894	181359	325	38216
35.	33010	33012	113	27924	27958	213	131266	131266	325	245251
37.	105420	105449	114	733761	733770	214	231193	231335	326	599830
37.	69601	69609	114	54901	54901	214	32148	32156	328	19312
38.	52581	52630	116	91036	91087	214	674463	674472	330	176676
38.	829061	829920	117	36938	36960	214	25014	25015	332	881916
38.	4391	4420	119	700210	700217	215	602225	602256	332	28502
38.	24971	25020	120	224915	224936	216	833142	833145	333	192668
39.	170653	170877	121	654033	654036	217	983647	983658	334	691215
39.	16209	16209	124	8404	8404	222	860878	860888	335	622578
40.	273185	273430	124	225001	225150	224	178661	178713	336	636555
40.	30410	30487	124	203961	204000	225	627155	627168	338	703809
40.	23124	23142	124	2190	2201	226	232594	232622	339	185257
41.	116162	116595	125	226746	227282	228	180832	180902	340	166469
43.	118335	118463	125	29716	29716	230	94053	94113	340	44401
45.	12952	12957	127	857157	857183	231	776242	776255	342	589348
46.	974461	974890	129	852620	852644	232	43801	43821	343	648439
46.	29131	29140	130	129513	129750	233	18413	18423	343	648449
46.	975190	975190	131	773188	773232	233	74407	74408	344	40810
47.	45001	45017	131	39019	39022	235	682778	682785	345	655566
48.	228751	228790	132	691704	691704	236	661256	661268	347	192310
48.	189895	18995	133	316321	316326	237	8871	8891	348	13211
48.	122111	122250	134	158471	158566	238	681398	681425	348	190029
48.	4899	4905	134	157081	157097	239	678529	678531	348	190028
50.	261270	261300	134	159591	159626	241	112375	112395	351	197333
51.	923411	923455	134	160082	160500	244	704372	704376	352	8713
52.	202291	203120	134	214171	214260	245	137324	137325	354	165334
52.	39844	39850	134	219271	219739	246	190001	190030	354	149101
52.	24982	25000	134	221251	222000	248	143101	143105	355	638576
52.	103501	103515	134	160501	161250	248	29150	29179	355	163282
53.	216561	216634	134	67501	68250	250	616241	616253	358	9304
53.	202354	202354	134	51001	51760	251	694975	694986	362	105997
54.	618125	618133	134	72751	73500	252	149548	149579	364	130731
56.	113174	113232	134	72001	72750	254	43220	43229	365	822328
56.	187804	187806	134	70501	71250	255	56565	56571	367	833537
57.	172708	172720	134	48001	48750	256	300735	300756	369	163199
58.	225751	226254	134	69751	70500	256	186386	186418	370	649525
58.	225456	225750	134	49501	50250	257	260286	260286	377	12602
58.	226501	226916	134	50251	51000					

L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS
532	221090	221156	648	149708	149718	784	32836	32870	1047	168890	168919
535	332709	333734	649	217091	217123	787	916245	916258	1054	37223	37231
536	6229971	6229979	651	711219	711224	792	707099	707107	1057	482414	482430
537	168963	168981	653	261451	261489	794	148848	148859	1072	858554	858566
538	94670	94689	654	2444	2449	794	39604	1086	25058	25094	136
539	908076	908085	655	13263	13274	794	193656	193713	1087	19517	19523
540	6187	6211	658	39324	39332	798	954549	954559	1091	40504	40526
541	195918	195965	660	20232	20274	802	674818	674824	1095	4054	4080
544	41415	41415	664	83401	83401	802	56701	56702	1099	787510	787535
547	655894	655902	664	10820	10841	808	868920	868939	1101	341612	341626
548	618709	618715	665	16	49	817	127532	127543	1108	22913	22932
549	940670	940697	665	144045	144047	817	234962	235173	1118	1436	1463
551	290974	290977	665	55835	55838	828	703189	703195	1131	38425	38443
552	95326	95339	665	21496	21498	832	677949	677955	1135	614159	614165
555	899091	899107	666	65101	835	80128	80134	1141	551	596	317
558	39296	39300	666	106024	106089	838	681098	681121	1141	20423	20428
558	621437	621441	668	74478	74493	840	664797	664808	1141	21913	21914
559	610334	610340	669	241507	241515	842	624886	624890	1144	533928	533935
561	66626	66637	673	13831	13853	849	623495	623501	1147	31018	31068
561	31228	31395	675	2401	2473	850	746163	746179	1154	40209	40230
561	11726	11730	675	177751	177838	854	204973	205003	1156	131666	131741
564	740757	740762	677	122536	122587	854	81301	81303	1156	413	136718
565	902874	902890	679	650138	650140	855	153301	153302	1156	429	10145
567	118914	118975	680	706154	706163	855	4031	4045	1156	435	67167
569	23405	23406	680	144604	144607	857	683709	683720	1156	441	708583
569	136124	136198	681	458124	458126	858	52805	52806	1156	446	36068
569	21636	21641	686	30861	30877	858	139702	139734	1156	448	115345
570	15095	16008	688	18574	18584	862	11798	11817	1156	4526	45895
571	32428	32445	691	6622	6661	863	46201	46208	1156	454	240847
572	263194	263203	694	128852	128928	863	702187	702200	1156	458	88191
573	658780	658789	695	717216	717240	864	15309	15310	1156	460	103074
574	24010	24010	697	205085	205320	864	242291	242344	1156	466	908077
574	928742	928783	697	25816	25884	865	114431	114519	1156	468	136164
574	28206	28206	699	42010	42016	869	546667	546678	1156	470	201771
575	9707	9730	699	196951	196955	870	202621	202669	1156	472	848
577	33641	33651	701	812334	812394	873	364296	364304	1156	473	211316
580	642764	642779	702	33921	33921	875	625301	625310	1156	478	179344
581	9721	9750	702	15601	15723	877	680142	680151	1156	480	37870
581	252751	252790	702	208307	208554	885	733	753	1156	482	37873
583	30661	30680	704	212433	212450	885	30611	30611	1156	484	37895
584	201764	201853	707	6901	6910	892	35443	35463	1156	485	195841
584	57781	57790	707	195829	195865	900	597708	597717	1156	486	864-865
584	140278	140278	707	18003	18004	902	31654	31684	1156	487	610
584	211301	211394	711	213661	213745	907	39000	61501	1156	488	114486
586	683394	683427	712	497846	497868	907	61501	61503	1156	489	188443
588	179303	179345	713	300751	301040	912	122641	122727	1156	491	677080
588	73502	73504	713	104731	105000	912	6053	6082	1156	492	1037
591	695704	695716	713	3066	912	190206	190207	1156	493	276023	
591	35111	35111	713	61011	61100	914	169599	169621	1156	494	1054
592	263736	263738	716	1591	1610	918	704841	704860	1156	495	37225
593	2754	2763	716	124941	125180	919	59320	59323	1156	496	690606
594	691576	691593	716	26411	26412	922	21610	21618	1156	497	857149
595	197375	197513	717	9612	9680	922	83101	83102	1156	498	96519-96520
596	440518	440529	717	222599	222664	940	669644	669648	1156	499	96611
598	664484	664493	719	441727	441750	948	188414	188455	1156	500	34510
599	924658	924673	719	63301	63303	948	13060	13064	1156	501	690606
599	37801	37801	722	69303	69303	953	36337	36352	1156	502	18017-18018
600	1576	1595	722	15961	15978	956	632932	632936	1156	503	237
601	37870	37902	729	14796	14802	958	657294	657300	1156	504	8860-8868
601	148501	148510	731	460295	460313	968	9317	9321	1156	505	186371-1880
603	620791	620798	732	1811	1812	969	634164	634171	1156	506	256
603	19502	19502	732	125726	125764	970	694499	694511	1156	507	18628
607	600913	600918	734	181793	181912	971	443093	443097	1156	508	24032-24040
614	732086	732091	734	82801	82801	972	665113	665119	1156	509	318, 475, 493
617	99967	99986	735	670954	670961	978	326146	326161	1156	510	127
618	22540	22540	743	1541	1556	991	677077	677088	1156	511	310
619	675419	675421	743	249751	249816	995	41713	41723	1156	512	42830
623	90151	90178	743	2067	2100	997	626420	626420	1156	513	274660
625	36668	36693	747	263498	263506	1002	59884	59932	1156	514	224990
625	60306	60306	757	31937	31961	1012	668941	668942	1156	515	554-555
630	334322	334340	759	262541	262544	1021	970747	970750	1156	516	652996
631	944945	944965	762	9139	9155	1025	973082	973086	1156	517	890661-070
636	123225	123261	765	38107	38110	1029	7889805	789824	1156	518	96519-96520, 96611
640	33643	33689	770	3496	3539	1032	768010	768020	1156	519	96615
642	141991	142009	771	330583	330586	1037	276021	276170	1156	520	44965, 126115, 232
648	14403	14403	772	702296	702302	1037	129797	129797	1156	521	118335
648	107400	107468	774	799599	799630	1045	280117	280119	1156	522	115057-510
									1156	523	211-41430
									1156	524	581-252790

## APPALLING EMPLOYMENT TREND IN RADIO FIELD

(Continued from page 302)

appalling. Only seven of the 26 firms making sets in 1929 kept a complete account of their labor turnover, but in these seven plants a combined total of about 50,000 people came and went during the year in order to maintain a force of approximately 18,000 at the average and 30,000 at the peak of activity. If the employment figures of the radio industry are contrasted with the census figures for other lines of production, the radio industry will be found to be one of the most fluctuating of all branches of manufacturing.

## AUTOS LESSEN EARTHQUAKES, HOUSES MAGNIFY THEM

Automobiles are cited as "admirable earthquake-proof buildings," by Dr. T. A. Jaggar, distinguished American volcano ex-

pert, as a result of personal experiences during the severe earthquake of September 25, 1929, in Hawaii. In a recent announcement from the Hawaiian Volcano Research Association, Dr. Jaggar describes how he happened that day to be driving in his automobile to visit a friend. On arriving at the friend's house, Dr. Jaggar was astonished to find the inhabitants in great excitement and the house partly ruined. A violent earthquake had happened while Dr. Jaggar was in his moving automobile. In spite of long experience as an earthquake observer he had felt nothing. During the shocks which followed, Dr. Jaggar reports, many people left their houses and slept in their automobiles. Even when not in motion, Dr. Jaggar reports, "a sedan on springs and rubber tires produced almost no sensation to the occupants while adjacent homes were rattling and roaring with the aftershocks."

Houses usually act, he finds, as magnifiers of earth movements so that what seems to be a violent earthquake to a person indoors may seem to a person on the ground in the open to be a single, not very

strong, thud under his feet or may pass altogether unnoticed. This may explain why it is that primitive men have few myths of earthquakes but many of floods and fires. Having no houses to magnify them, primitive man probably felt only the very greatest earthquakes, but anybody is impressed by a forest fire or a flood.

## THE HOUSEWIFE'S GREATEST BOON

(Continued from page 306)

If the editor will let me, I'll mention that this stove costs less than other makes of comparable quality.

There's little doubt that if she understood its advantages, and if she could afford it, every woman in America would have an all-electric kitchen. Higher wages and lower power rates would make that a possibility.

# PRINCIPAL CITIES

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LOCAL UNIONS IN PRINCIPAL CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ARE NOW KEEPING STATISTICAL RECORDS IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE.

\* \* \*

THEY BELIEVE THAT IT IS AS NECESSARY TO KNOW FACTS ABOUT THE INDUSTRY AND TO KEEP INDUSTRIAL RECORDS AS IT IS TO KEEP FINANCIAL RECORDS, AND TO AUDIT ACCOUNTS.

\* \* \*

RESEARCH IS A NEW SORT OF TOOL.

It is another way of advancing the objective of the union. Key cities have adopted the research plan of the Brotherhood.

\* \* \*

RESEARCH DEMANDS EFFECTIVE TOOLS.

The weekly research cards, and the research ledgers prepared by the I. O. are tools in the aid of research.

\* \* \*

LIFETIME LOOSE-LEAF FULL LEATHER RESEARCH BINDERS WITH TABS ARE PRICED AT \$15.

Research ledger sheets are priced at \$2.50 a hundred. One sheet serves a member a year.

Research weekly report cards are 50 cents a hundred.

\* \* \*

RESEARCH, LIKE A GOOD ENGINE, GAINS SMOOTHNESS AND POWER WITH USE.

Statistics gathered accurately and preserved carefully over periods of time will serve the union powerfully.

The union cannot ignore this new tool of organization work.

\* \* \*

**G. M. BUGNIAZET, Secretary**  
**International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**  
1200 15th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.



AMERICA is the last abode of romance and other medieval phenomena. There is, for instance, more crime than England has known since the War of the Roses; your people are as apathetic about central government as serfs and villeins were; you still resort to patronage and jobbery to get anything done; you believe in sooth-sayers and alchemists if they speak from Wall Street; the Volstead act is a class measure like the Plantagenet game laws; your universities encourage a tiresome medieval industry; your newspapers are as full of personalities as the Canterbury Tales, and your casual friendliness—a charming trait, I admit—is very much like that of Chaucer's pilgrims.

—JUAN IN AMERICA *by Eric Linklater.*

